

THE LITERARY GAZETTE

AND
Journal of the Belles Lettres, Science, and Art.

No. 1841.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 1, 1852.

Price Fourpence.
Stamped Edition, Fivepence.

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CLOSING OF THE EXHIBITION.
BRITISH INSTITUTION, Pall Mall.—The GALLERY for the EXHIBITION and SALE of the WORKS of BRITISH ARTISTS is OPEN DAILY, from Ten till Five, and will close on Saturday, May 8. Admission 1s. Catalogue 1s.
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The Forty-Eighth Annual Exhibition is NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 5, Pall-Mall East, from Nine till Dusk. Admission, One Shilling. Catalogue, Sixpence.
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ADVERTISEMENTS intended for insertion in the PRESENT Year's Issue of MURRAY'S HANDBOOKS FOR TRAVELLERS ON THE CONTINENT, must be forwarded to the Publisher before the 25th of May.
20, Albemarle Street, London, April, 1852.

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THE CAMDEN SOCIETY, for the Publication of Early Historical and Literary Remains.—The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's-Inn-Fields, on Monday, the 3rd of May, at 4 o'clock precisely.

The Lord BRAYBROOKE, President, in the chair.
WILLIAM J. THOMS, Secretary.
The following are the publications of the Society for the year 1851-52:—
1. Privy Purse Expenses of Charles II. and James II. Edited by J. Y. Akerman, Esq., Sec. S.A.
2. Chronicle of the Greyfriars of London. Edited by J. G. Nichols, Esq., F.S.A.
3. Promptorium: an English and Latin Dictionary. By Albert Way, Esq., M.A., F.S.A. Vol. II. (M. to R.) [Nearly ready.]
The subscription to the Society is £1 per annum, which becomes due on the 1st of May.
Communications from gentlemen desirous of becoming members may be addressed to the Secretary, or to Messrs. Nichols, 25, Parliament Street, Westminster, by whom the subscriptions of all members resident in London are received.

THE EDINBURGH REVIEW, No. CXCIV.,
Was published on Monday last.

CONTENTS.
1. TRONSON DU COUDRAY; NOUVELLES CAUSES CELEBRES.
2. NATIONAL EDUCATION.
3. THE TEMPORAL POWER OF THE POPE: FARINI.
4. ATHENIAN ARCHITECTURE: PENROSE.
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8. ROEBUCK'S HISTORY OF THE WHIGS.
9. SQUIER'S NICARAGUA.
10. LORD DERBY'S MINISTRY AND PROTECTION.
London: Longman and Co. Edinburgh: A. and C. Black.

BLACKWOOD'S MAGAZINE.
No. CCCCXXXIX., for MAY. Price 2s. 6d.

CONTENTS:—
Gold: its Natural and Civil History.
Life of Niebuhr.
Thomas Moore.
My Novel; or, Varieties in English Life. Part XXI.
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William Blackwood and Sons, Edinburgh and London.

On 1st May will be published,
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Review of the Month, &c. &c.
London: Ward and Co., 27, Paternoster Row.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 1, 1852.

REVIEWS.

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FEW subjects connected with antiquity have obtained a greater share of attention, and have been studied with more diligence and success during the last twenty years, than the early history of Rome. For this we are almost entirely indebted to Niebuhr's immortal work, which has formed the basis of all subsequent investigations. No real lover of antiquity can speak of the labours of this master-mind except in terms of gratitude and respect; but at the same time it is not to be expected that we are bound to accept all his views, or acquiesce in all his conclusions. This is not the way to pay honour to a great man; and it is to be regretted that Dr. Arnold did not exercise a more independent judgment in his Roman history. Many of our readers are probably not aware that since Niebuhr's death several works have appeared in Germany, distinguished by originality of thought and by depth of research, in which new light has been thrown upon various important points in the early history of Rome. While Niebuhr's views have been adopted in some particulars, in many they have been impugned, and in several they may be said to have been refuted. It would carry us much too far to enter into details; and it is sufficient for our purpose to call attention, in passing, to the *Histories of the Roman Constitution* by Götting and Rubino, to the smaller works of Peter, Zumpt, Mommsen, Marquardt, and Ihne, and especially to Becker's *Manual of Roman Antiquities*, in which the literature of the subject is most fully given.

It would seem that the time has now arrived when a new history of the Roman monarchy and republic might be safely undertaken by a writer who possesses the requisite learning and sufficient skill in composition to do justice to his theme. The subject has been so thoroughly examined, canvassed, and discussed by the writers to whom we have alluded, that it may safely be asserted that we now possess all the means for forming an independent judgment, and that nothing is to be gained by further delay. We trust that many years will not pass by before our literature possesses a Roman history worthy of a place by the side of Mr. Grote's masterly volumes on the *History of Greece*.

Meantime, we hail with satisfaction and gratitude Mr. Newman's present work, as forming a valuable contribution to the subject. It is rather an essay upon the history of Rome under the kings, than a history of Rome during that period; but it deserves, and we trust will obtain, the attention both of the scholar and the general reader. To the latter, who is only acquainted with Niebuhr's views as given in a more popular form by Arnold, it will supply much new and unexpected information, while the clearness and liveliness of its style, as well as the absence of all pedantic learning, will render it peculiarly acceptable. To the scholar it will be still more interesting, as the work of a man unfettered by the opinions of his predecessors, and who has brought to his task the powers of a singularly original and acute mind.

Mr. Newman opens with an account of the earliest inhabitants of Italy. He then dis-

cusses at some length the origin and formation of the Latin language, in which he traces such a strong Celtic element as to lead him to the conclusion that a Celtic tribe formed one of the stocks of population out of which the mixed Roman people was made up. The Sabines he believes to be Celts, and Celts nearer to the Gaelic or Erse than to the Welsh branch. He next takes up the earliest history of the city and the reign of Romulus, maintaining that the earliest occupants of Rome were closely connected with the Greeks. With the history of Romulus he concludes the first part of his book, to which he gives the name of 'Alban Rome.'

The second part of the work is entitled, 'Sabine Rome,' and contains the history of Numa, Tullus Hostilius, and Ancus Martius. The Sabines, Mr. Newman conceives to have conquered Rome, and to have imposed upon the conquered Romans their religion and institutions. Hence he traces to the Sabines the most striking peculiarities of the Roman people. The relation of patron and client, which he considers to have been also of Sabine origin, is explained by him in a very different manner from Niebuhr and preceding writers:—

"Many modern writers seem unable to conceive such a relation of lord and serf, except where it is founded on conquest by foreigners; yet there are instances to the contrary so clear, that to impute a conquest is gratuitous. A future generation, on learning how peasants in the Scotch Highlands have been driven off the soil by the representatives of the chieftains for whom their fathers' broadswords won it, will be in danger of mistaking these free, hardy, and much-injured men for a conquered and inferior race. And in fact there is not only a very great similarity, in the relations between a Chief of the Gaelic clans and his vassals, to those between a Sabine Patron and his Client, but, insofar as language is any test of blood, it would appear that the Sabines and the Gaels are of nearer kindred than Irish and Welsh. The patriarchal authority is not easily abused to griping and heartless covetousness in the rude days, when chief and clansman live in daily sight of one another, as in an Arab tribe; when men are valuable for bravery and devotedness, and not only for the rent which they pay; and when the arts of life are so little advanced, that the great use of wealth is to maintain a more gorgeous retinue. But when with the progress of art and political development, the chief covets the land for the sake of rent and not of men, and a custom has hardened into law which enables him to appear as owner of the soil, the relation of Patron to Client is liable to become one of antagonism, and frequently of bitter hostility, as in republican Rome.

"That the Sabine Patron was to his Clients, in an economical and commercial sense, as Landlord to Tenants, appears an *à priori* certainty. Two propositions are undeniable:—that the Patron did not need to labour for his own subsistence;—and, that the land was the sole source of annual income to the chieftains collectively. Revenues from manufactures or houses, from customs and excise, even from mines, quarries, or salt-works, are not to be thought of, in such a state of society, as anything but a very rare exception. If the Patron lived, without labour, from the labour of others, whether as shepherds or as husbandmen, who else can these others have been but his clients? And this the Greeks felt, when they expressed the word clients by *πίλαται*.

"When Attus Clausus the Sabine came from Regillus to Rome at the beginning of the republic, at the head of a clan of five thousand fighting men, he received lands for his followers on Roman soil, where they were made the nucleus of the Claudian Tribe. In a few years he must have become a poor man, or at least dependent on the yearly earnings of his sword, unless some rent from his clients had

been reserved for him. Whatever wealth in silver and copper, in stuff and in cattle, he may have brought with him, must soon have been dissipated, unless the land itself replenished them. So long as a purely agricultural or pastoral state subsisted, the children of clients naturally became clients to the same patron or his representative. The younger branches of the patron's family,—brothers, nephews, and cousins,—no doubt, were welcome at the table of the head of the clan, and formed his most devoted body-guard. Such a state of things was familiar in the middle ages, and in Homeric Greece. Thus the whole nation split itself into two parts, Nobles and Populace,—or Patricians and Plebeians; although it is probable that the Sabine patrician, like Laertes or the elder Cato, never felt that disdain for personal service in agriculture which characterized a feudal gentleman. For a patrician Cincinnatus to hold the plough, was rare and strange; but such a deed excited pity or admiration, with certainly no shade of contempt. Such were the simple Sabine virtues which later Rome praised, but had no desire to imitate."

The third part of the book is called 'Etrusco-Latin Rome,' and is devoted to the history of the last three kings. In opposition to Niebuhr, K. O. Müller, and most of the German scholars, Mr. Newman accepts the ancient tradition of the Asiatic origin of the Etruscans, at the same time maintaining that "Etruscan elements in Italy were mingled with two other foreign influences,—Hellenic and Pelasgian." He rejects, however, the theory of an Etruscan conquest of Rome by the elder Tarquin, and supposes that the latter obtained the kingdom by the support of the Latin chieftains, usually called the *Minores Gentes*, or Lesser Clans. Hence the power of the last three kings, though Etruscans themselves, rested upon a Latin basis. The following passage will enable the reader to understand more fully Mr. Newman's views respecting the history of 'Regal Rome':—

"The current history gives us only six elective kings,—from Numa to the second Tarquin inclusively,—for a period during which the most startling changes were brought about in Roman society. Under Numa is the effort to cement Sabines and Romulians into one people with one religion; and under Tullus Sabine religion finally triumphs. Under Tullus and Ancus an influx of Latin population takes place; and by the end of Ancus's reign the two older races have been thoroughly blended into the *Gentes Majores*, and a new struggle of the *Gentes Minores* with them is at hand. These however are brought to equality under the elder Tarquin; and behold, under Servius a totally new Parliament which supersedes the *Curies*,—an assembly which has been as it were worn out in only four reigns. The contest of Patrician and Plebeian seems already to be commencing. Thus in fact we have in only six elective reigns three different successive divisions of the State into an *in* and *out* party; and we know no reason for imagining that the length of such reigns can have exceeded the average of twelve or fifteen years. If so, the history from Numa to Servius inclusively is made out to be under seventy-five years.

"Moreover, the original Sabines were rude warriors who overpowered a population of robbers; yet by the times of the first Tarquin the Romans abound with wealth and art, so as to commence the splendid temple of Jupiter Capitolinus, and the enormous drain, of which a part still remains. And this change is brought about in three elective reigns, or less than half a century.

"The Romans were less sensible of the narrow time allowed for such developments; because they unhesitatingly received a chronology which assigned 245 years to seven elective kings,—of whom, we must add, that three perished by a violent death and the last was prematurely expelled. But we know such a chronology to be impossible.

"Our accounts concerning the three last kings may be better trusted, from the certain growth of

art and of maritime commerce in that period; whence we cannot doubt the familiar use of writing for recording events. But the more distant reigns are of course less trustworthy; and it is in them that we may suspect tradition to have failed of preserving the names of all the kings. The reign of Numa is all but mythical. To him are ascribed the fundamental religious institutions; and his whole history is invented out of this one thought. Tullus and Ancus may be real men; but their names cover a large space of time, during which an enormous internal change took place in Rome. Far more than three kings must have reigned in the era which sufficed not only for fusing Sabine and Roman into a homogeneous population, but for superinducing a mass of Latins which outnumbered the Sabino-Romans. If instead of four, we imagine sixteen elective kings, between Numa and Tarquin the Proud, this may yield 200 years, a little less than the 208 of the old annalists. The total period allowed by them would seem not to be at all too much, but the series of events perhaps forbids such interpolation later than the elder Tarquin. To recover the history of the Sabino-Roman kings is obviously impossible; and all the public events that we *certainly know* concerning the period seem to be comprehended in two sentences; 1. that the Sabine and Roman nobility became effectually blended into one State and one race, with one Sabine religion; and 2. that Rome went on prospering and acquiring masses of Latin subjects and citizens."

It has been our object in the preceding notice to present our readers with the substance of this very interesting and striking work. We do not agree with the learned author in all points; nor is this to be expected. But neither our space nor the patience of our readers will allow us to enter into a controversy with him on the present occasion. We may perhaps take another opportunity of stating our own views upon several of the disputed points of early Roman history, especially upon the subject of Clientage, as to which we totally dissent from Mr. Newman's opinions; but meantime we most cordially recommend the work to our readers.

A Residence in Algeria. By Madame Prus. Pickering.

ABD-EL-KADER, a prisoner at Amboise, and pacing his dungeon-den, like a caged lion of the desert, offers a practical comment on the value of French honour. The occupation of Algeria, begun in perfidy by the elder and legitimate Bourbon, was fixed in perfidy by the younger and illegitimate Orleans branch, and a Bonaparte is now ready to endorse the knavish policy and share the profits of the breach of promise. The spirit of Louis XI., the incarnation of duplicity, rarely abandons the councils of a state, he was the first to consolidate and aggrandize. Since the untoward day when the wild and infidel chief trusted to the usages of regular war, and the plighted word of the most Christian king's generals, a lull has come over the ravaged land, and grim-visaged War has smoothed his wrinkled front. Now-a-days the blatant 'Moniteur' trumpets forth no Algerian triumphs; no Bugeauds are raised to dukedoms for capturing the mules and parasols of the Emir; no Le Pellessiers are decorated for wholesale baking of babes and women in the furnace-caves of Dahra; in the absence of Arab victims, the heroes of a hundred razzias deserted the desert to flesh their fratricidal swords at barricade and boulevard, in the "heart and brain" of their cherished capital. The political convulsions which, since the downfall of Louis Philippe, when

for a moment chaos seemed come again in Europe, and the dangers so near to hearth and altar, have long altogether engrossed the minds and thoughts of men, and left little room or inclination for consideration of events in distant Algeria; the speculations of philosophers and philanthropists gave way to the life and death questions at home. The hurricane has now passed, but let it not be forgotten that France, veiling under specious mask her selfish schemes of ambition, her covetousness for the shores of the Mediterranean, "her lake," stood forth as the professed leader of civilization and the pioneer of peace, *par excellence*. She proclaimed, far and wide, her sacred mission to spread the blessings of comfort, affluence, and happiness on the north of Africa, to substitute arts and science for ignorance, to humanise and reclaim the barbarian, and bid the desert rejoice and blossom like the rose. Under the benign influence of the tricolor, differences of race and creed were to be reconciled, and the cross of truth and mercy was to triumph over the false and cruel crescent. Well indeed may *la perfide Albion* smile when the deeds of the Gaul are compared with his words, and his performances with his promises. His eighty thousand armed apostles have carried their charity and goodwill on the bayonet's point, and dispelled moral darkness with the torch of the furies, while plague, pestilence, and famine, the dark shadows that follow the armies of these propagandists of liberty, equality, and fraternity, have completed that solitude they now term peace.

Be this as it may, occupation at home—war, civil and internecine—has diverted their combative and destructive energies from unhappy Algeria, and an interval of breathing time has been afforded to the infant colony. Naturally, therefore, we opened the work before us with some curiosity, in confidence, after much silence, that some new information would be afforded of the actual condition of the conquered country, and in the faint hope that the tree of knowledge, planted by foreign sword, and watered by native blood, might have pushed some roots into the desert, and given some promise of future fruits of religion and civilization. We have read the volume with much pleasure; the topics handled in it are interesting, the narrative is flowing, and the record faithful, and we are admitted behind the scenes; the translation is excellently made, easy, and idiomatic.

Madame Prus quitted England with regret, where she had spent sixteen happy years, in order to join an only brother, who, ruined by the revolution of 1848, had accepted the government offer of a small allotment of land in Algeria.

"The only survivors of their family, and both advanced in years, they agreed to spend their old age together in the exercise of mutual care and affection, which give fortitude to endure the many reverses and trials of life."

By the intelligence of the sudden death, from typhus fever, of her brother, her cup of bitterness was full—no hope, no earthly consolation was left. A "cart" is charitably sent to convey the heiress-at-law to her deserted abode at Mondovi:—

"At five o'clock in the morning, I perceived the first houses of the village, or rather encampment; my heart sank within me at the desolate appearance of the colony. Imagine, dear Caroline, long rows of wooden huts, divided lengthways by slight partition walls, and subdivided again into spaces of various sizes, according to the numbers in each family. In these spaces or rooms, as they are mis-

called, men, women, children, dogs, cats, pigs, hens, and chickens, live huddled together in lamentable confusion. The wooden roofs afford but feeble protection against the burning heat of an African sun; but at seven o'clock in the evening, an abundant, cold, and heavy dew invariably falls, and such as yield to the temptation of breathing the evening air pay dearly for this temporary relief. But this is not all. After sunset, the vapours rising from the ground produce such a prodigious number of insects, that it is no exaggeration to say one is literally covered with them; added to these, swarms of muskitoes render the idea of repose useless. I thus passed three weeks, spending the nights in a state of feverish agitation, and the days in the lassitude caused by want of sleep and the annoyance of insects of all descriptions. My brother's house was quite empty; it had been stripped of all its scanty furniture before my arrival."

According to the plans at Paris, this settlement was to have consisted of 200 brick houses, of which not thirty were ever built, while the colonists are put off with the baseless vision of future fabrics. Nor can masons be got to work. In digging the foundations they dig their own graves, so pregnant with epidemics are the exhalations of the spade-disturbed soil. The erections, so far as they have been raised, have destroyed more troops than the Arabs. Yet while the bones of half the colonists bleach in this charnel house, arrivals succeed to arrivals; "such is the force of the delusion, which it is the interest of the French government to maintain." In truth, while theorists, visionary enthusiasts, and philanthropists cling, in spite of failures, to their Utopian schemes, and turn a deaf ear to unwelcome facts and remonstrance, Algeria acts as a safety valve, whereby turbulent spirits, refractory regiments, and all who living might prove their country's shame and difficulty, are speedily disposed of.

Madame Prus describes the gigantic sun of Africa, in unison with the nature of this terrible country:—

"The same character of arid grandeur pervades everything, deserts, trees, rocks, mountains, plains; the very men partake of the nature of the lion. When the wind of the desert rises, the sun is surrounded by a sort of lurid glare, which is reflected on the mountains and in the atmosphere; all is overspread with a sickly hue. The sky, the air, all creation is in a state of suffering. Then a burning wind rises from the sea of sand, and, like an immense cloud, crosses the space with inconceivable rapidity; all that possesses life or feeling gives way before its baneful influence. Man, deprived of all strength, remains panting and exhausted till the storm has passed; the child, whose delicate lungs are unable to breathe the suffocating air, utters plaintive cries, and writhes in pain on the lap of its mother; the animals stretch themselves on the plain, struggling and pining for relief; the rays of the sun are condensed behind a veil of sand, and all nature is in agony."

Can it be wondered that our emigrant, already so morally cast down, soon sank into a listless apathy and mental torpor, and was fast perishing, when fortunately she was removed to Bona, a somewhat healthier place; there—

"The population reaches 12,000, of which 4000 are French, principally natives of Provence. It seems as if Algeria had been conquered solely for their benefit, for directly after the invasion of our army, the Provençaux and Toulonnais followed with theirs; but even they had been forestalled by the Maltese, who had come in the rear of our troops like a flock of birds of prey."

On the whole, Madame Prus fared better than the earlier colonists of Mondovi. Their arrival presented a "mournful spectacle of

miserable men, women, and children, stricken with poverty and profound discouragement," yet welcomed by the authorities, as if in cruel irony, with music and airs of 'Mourir pour la patrie.' Nearly a thousand spent the first night sleeping on straw, and were sent the next morning *fasting* to their districts, where nothing had been prepared; many were marched eight leagues knee deep in mire and marshes, to "an extensive treeless plain, almost converted into a swamp by the constant rain, and for the first day had no food whatever."

To pass to less painful subjects, Madame Prus, by having accidentally praised Abd-el-Kader, touched the chord to which every native heart responded; the Arabs evinced their delight by showering on her kind offices. Our limited space compels us to refer to her pages for interesting details of the harem and the tent. We may just mention the mode in which a Mussulman, with many wives, manages to keep the peace. "Killing the sheep is one of the annual rejoicings in Africa, as killing the pig at Christmas is in some of the remote districts of France." Every establishment is busy:—

"The four wives" of the good man by whom our author was invited "possessed an equal authority, although the first is regarded as mistress of the house; and on this occasion each endeavoured to increase her own extent of power as much as possible, by enforcing her opinion in a tone of voice and an accent of fury, which, if heard in our markets, would cause the stoutest of our viragos to quail. However, the hands that were often thrust forward in menacing gestures never actually touched their antagonist, as any attack would have brought down signal vengeance on the offender, the fear of which put a stop to further violence; but the resentment thus diverted from its natural course, expended itself in frantic self-mutilation, the women tearing their necks and faces in the most frightful manner, and vociferating with the whole strength of their lungs. The parties engaged in these domestic bickerings always shed their own blood, and never that of their rivals. The question naturally occurs why the husband of these four Amazons did not interfere. He remained in a state of tranquil indifference, convinced that all was for the best, smoking his pipe, and quietly looking on, as if the scene had been performed for his entertainment."

If, however, these exemplary self-sacrificing spouses thus contrive to please their lords and masters in-doors, a personage who certainly does not spare the masses outside, seems equally popular with them—

"Every day, morning and evening," says our widow, "I see a Moor, richly dressed, pass along the street; all his features beam with kindness and serenity. A sword, or rather a long yataghan, is slung in his girdle; all the Arabs salute him with respect, and press forward to kiss his hand. This man is a *chaouch* or executioner; an office considered so honourable in this country, that the person invested with it is regarded as a special favourite of heaven, entrusted with the care of facilitating the path of the true believer from this lower world to the seventh heaven of Mahomet."

There is no accounting for tastes; nor did this singular superstition pass into Europe with the invading Moor. No hawk is more mobbed by little birds than the finisher of the law—unpopular generally with "the many"—is in semi-oriental Spain. Madame Prus, however, observes—

"That Bona is more backward in civilization than any other town occupied by the French in this country. It is farthest from the shore, and its finest habitations offer a strange mixture of modern luxury and ancient barbarism."

No less it would seem than the actual tribunals, for while the revered Jack Ketch is a native, "it is not forgotten that a *seller of tickets* at the theatre of the Porte St. Martin at Paris, was appointed judge with an extensive salary."

One word at parting with our agreeable and intelligent author. As we understand she is about to publish her observations on Cayenne, a transatlantic Algeria, to which the Prince-President has, in his mercy, transported those of his countrymen he judges likely to be improved by travel, she will do well to discontinue, or at least diminish, the introduction of historical information and extraneous episodes. Unconscious of her natural powers of observation, and facilities of writing what is pleasant to read, she has modestly hoped to conciliate fastidious readers with something more solid, and hence has overlaid her original and lively narrative, which plays lightly on the surface of things, with disquisitions that we contrive to skip; for we have learned by experience, that *l'auteur se tue à alonger, ce que le lecteur se tue à abréger*.

Thorvaldsen's Leben. Von J. M. Thiele. Leipzig: Lork. London: Williams and Norgate.

AMONG artistic biographies a life of Thorvaldsen has long been wanting, and it has been because the materials for such a life were nowhere to be found. Thorvaldsen's career commenced in poverty and darkness; when the world came to know him, he was famous. In his early years no one had an interest in the fate of the poor ill-dressed and lank-haired boy, who helped his father—a third or fourth-rate carver and frame-maker at Copenhagen—to execute his clumsy figureheads and 'gallions,' or who carried a tool-basket after the drunken old artisan, when that person went for some job-work to the houses of the wealthy merchants and functionaries of the Danish capital. The boy's talents, indeed, excited some attention, and it was remarked that by his assistance old Thorwald succeeded now and then in carving a real lion for some ambitious merchant captain; whereas, before young Bertel Thorvaldsen grew up, the clownish old fellow spoilt all his lions, and made them French poodles. But what of that? The world as it goes is far too busy with its own affairs to care much for the precocious talent of a poor artisan, especially if he have only his talent to rely on, and if, like Bertel, he wants assurance, fluency of speech, and that mixture of boldness and humility which the patrons of art value more than even art itself. Hence it is no wonder that Bertel's way in the world could not keep pace with the development of his genius. His youth passed unnoticed in his father's workshop and the drawing school of the Academy, and the little that is known of the boy Bertel is chiefly derived from a few anecdotes he told his friends (of which the adventure of the spinning wheel must be fresh in the recollection of all the readers of Andersen's 'Moon Stories'), and partly from certain documents which the Copenhagen Academy preserved, not because it attached any particular value to them, but merely because the rules required all such papers to be filed and registered. These documents show that Bertel Thorvaldsen, after gaining the three highest prizes for drawing, composition, and modelling, had to petition for a wretched pittance of twenty pounds per annum to assist

him in his studies; and that afterwards the same course of humble petitioning was gone through for the sake of the 'travelling stipend' of 80*l.*, to which successful young artists were entitled. The grant of this 'stipend' concludes the young artist's career in his own country. Scarcely a trace is left of his career between the day of his departure from Copenhagen and the day on which his first independent works revealed him to the astounded world (that is to say, to the small part of the world which cares for such matters) as a rival of Canova. From that time forward the mention of his name is frequent, but not satisfactory. The artistic gossip of tourists is proverbially barren of information. Such gossip there was which brought the sculptor's name in connexion with the names of two women, one a Roman, and one a native of Scotland. Rumour, too, said that Miss Mackenzie died in consequence of her romantic attachment for the great Danish sculptor. But in all this there was much malice, and more idle talk, and although many anecdotes were current, conscientious men were not easily inclined to believe them; not indeed because they were scandalous, but simply because they were unauthenticated.

Under these circumstances Herr Thiele's book is peculiarly welcome, for it steps in with a perfect *embarras des richesses* of authentic matter. It contains a large quantity of original correspondence, which has never before been published, and of which the existence has never been known. We ought to premise that this is no Shelley letter forgery. The discovery of the document was accidental and most providential. After Thorvaldsen's death Herr Thiele had been sent by the Danish government to Rome, where he was instructed to claim the sculptor's works, models, drawings, and anything else that might be found in his house. He discovered many valuable objects, but no papers. This was the more strange as Thorvaldsen made draught of all his letters, and as he never was known to burn or otherwise destroy a paper. By the merest accident Herr Thiele found his way to a subterranean vault, and there, amidst layers of chalk, stones, and models, some broken, and some in excellent preservation, was found the correspondence which has furnished the framework for the present biography. It is the first, and it is likely to be the last, for though some material may be found in Thorvaldsen's unpublished correspondence with some of his English customers and friends, it cannot throw any new light on his adventures and his character.

There are two editions of Herr Thiele's book, one in German and one in Danish. We trust we shall soon be presented with an English edition.

The Poetical Works of David Macbeth Moir. Edited by Thomas Aird. With a Memoir of the Author. 2 vols. Blackwood and Sons.

A MEETING was held a few days ago at Musselburgh, to take steps for erecting some memorial of "Delta" in his native town. Letters were read from Alison, Croly, Lockhart Warren, and other literary friends, who sought to share in this testimony to departed worth. Charles Dickens, after expressing his admiration for Moir's genius, and his love for him as a man, thus wrote:—"I am not generally favourable to these posthumous honours, but I think the quiet place in which he was

so useful and so good is obeying the dictates of a natural and honourable tenderness in cherishing his memory by raising some enduring record of his talents and virtues." To the people of the place the marble monument will chiefly recall the memory of a neighbour much honoured and much loved; a man exemplary in all the relations of life; the kind and laborious "Doctor" of the country side. His biographer has raised a literary monument, for wider if not more enduring notice, in this collected edition of the poems, and memoir of the life, of his friend.

David Macbeth Moir was born at Musselburgh, a small fishing town six miles from Edinburgh, Jan. 5th, 1798. At the grammar school of his native place he received his early education, and then, after a four-years' apprenticeship to a medical man, he studied for his profession at the University of Edinburgh. He got his diploma as surgeon in 1816, when only eighteen years of age. Of his college life there are few things recorded. He lodged in a small room in Shakespeare-square, a locality well known to Edinburgh students. At Carfrae's, a famous sale-room for old books in those days, he was a frequent attendant, and in purchases there spent all his little allowance, except what procured him the occasional treat of seeing Mrs. Siddons and Miss O'Neill, John Kemble and Edmund Kean. It was his purpose to enter the medical department of the army, but the peace of 1815 put things on a different footing, and he settled in his own town, at first in partnership with an old practitioner. Of the routine of his daily life he gave the following account in writing to a friend:—

"Our business has ramified itself so much in all directions of the compass—save the north, where we are bounded by the sea—that on an average I have sixteen or eighteen miles' daily riding; nor can this be commenced before three or four hours of pedestrian exercise has been hurried through. I seldom get from horseback till five o'clock; and by half-past six I must be out to the evening rounds, which never terminate till after nine. Add to this the medical casualties occurring between sunset and sunrise, and you will see how much can be reasonably set down to the score of my leisure."

Except with such breaks as the death of his old partner in the business, and the adoption of a new one in 1833, the special excitement of the cholera epidemics, an occasional hurried trip, such as to the British Association at Oxford, in 1832, Mr. Moir's professional course, from 1817 to the year of his death in 1851, was that of the ordinary routine of a country surgeon. He was urged by Dr. Abercrombie and other influential friends to remove to Edinburgh, but he preferred the noiseless tenor of his subrural life. How much he was revered and loved appears in the affecting account of his funeral, which was attended by many hundreds of mourners, all the shops of the town being shut, and the magistrates and public officials heading the procession. Many eminent men from Edinburgh also went to pay this last tribute of respect to his memory, among whom were old Christopher North, Hugh Miller, many of the leading clergy and medical men, and Principal Lee, with several Professors of the University. "So we took farewell," said the writer of a beautiful notice in 'Blackwood,' we suppose Professor Wilson, "we took farewell of the gentlest and kindest being, of the most true and single-hearted man that we may ever hope to meet with in the course of this earthly pilgrimage."

Our author's first literary attempt bears the date of 1812, when in his fifteenth year. To various Scottish periodicals he was an occasional contributor, in prose or verse, as to Constable's 'Edinburgh Magazine,' and the 'Scots Magazine.' In 1817 he first wrote for 'Blackwood.'

"He kept his *incognito* for a while, even with Mr. Blackwood, communicating his serious and his jocose pieces, as if from two different parties—though, to say the truth, the sagacious publisher scented the identity of authorship from the very first."

Maginn has generally got the credit of some of the *jeux-d'esprit* now announced to be Moir's, such as 'The Eve of St. Jerry,' 'The Auncient Waggonere,' and many of the best squibs of those days.

"Besides his regular contributions of grave poetry to 'Blackwood,' bearing the usual signature of Δ, he was now pouring forth in the 'Magazine' all manner of jocularities in prose and verse—familiar letters and rhyming epistles from O'Doherty; mock-heroic specimens of translations from Horace; Christmas carols by the fancy contributors, Mullion and the rest; ironical imitations of living poets; Cockney love-songs; puns and parodies; freaks and fantasias endless—all little wotted of by the world as coming from him."

In 1824 he published his 'Legend of Genevieve, with other Tales and Poems,' chiefly selections of his magazine poetry. The same year saw the beginning of the 'Autobiography of Mansie Waugh,' by far the most popular of all his works, and that by which his name will most be perpetuated in his own country. It was republished in 1828, and its success as a book, in America and England, as well as in Scotland, has more than sustained its first popularity:—

"Mansie himself is perfect as a portraiture. What an exquisite compound of conceit, cowardice, gossiping silliness, pawkiness, candour, kindly affections, and good Christian principle—the whole amalgam, with no violent contrasts, with no gross exaggerations, beautifully blent down into verisimilitude, presenting to us a unique hero at once ludicrous and loveable. And how admirably in keeping with the central autobiographer are the characters and scenes which revolve around his needle. Totally different is the whole delineation from the broad, strong, national characteristics, rough and ready, hit off by Burns; but yet equally true to nature, and thoroughly Scottish."

His other prose works are 'Outlines of the Ancient History of Medicine,' 1830, 'Life of Dr. Macnish,' author of the 'Anatomy of Drunkenness,' and other well-known physiological treatises, in 1838, and 'Sketches of the Poetical Literature of the past half Century.' The last was delivered in the form of lectures before the Edinburgh Philosophical Institution, in 1851. They were well received, and when published drew complimentary letters from Macaulay, Wilson, Trench, Dickens, Barry Cornwall, Gilfillan, and other literary men. In July of the same year appeared 'The Lament of Selim,' his last contribution to 'Blackwood's Magazine,' for which from first to last he had written in prose or verse no fewer than 370 articles.

Moir's judgment of notable men was in general sound and correct. Of Emerson, for instance, he speaks as "a pseudo-philosopher," and "a clever lunatic," and after confirming his opinion by referring to a conversation with Lord Jeffrey about his style, he adds—"Depend upon it whenever a writer is obscure he is weak; and when you do come to a hidden meaning it is not worth knowing." Of Carlyle he had a higher idea, but he dif-

fered from many of that philosopher's admirers, in considering his best writings to be those which are the most intelligible. To Mr. Aird, who had told him of John Sterling's death, he writes—"Poor fellow! I quite agree with you in your estimate of his powers. He seemed to write more from effort than impulse,—he has more rhetoric than inspiration,—and is deficient in nature and tenderness." To the Memoir we must refer for notices of Galt, Bowring, Michael Scott, George Cruikshank, Thomas Hood, Theodore Martin, and other literary men, with whom Moir had either friendship or correspondence.

To young authors one of the chief lessons to be taught by this biography is the wisdom of making literary pursuits subservient to more regular occupations. It is not in more than one case in ten that an opposite course is advisable:—

"In early youth I had many aspiring feelings to dedicate my life to literature, and to literature alone; but I thank God—seeing what I have seen in Galt, in Hogg, in Hood, and other friends—that I had resolution to resolve on a profession, and to make poetry my crutch, and not my staff. I have, in consequence, lost the name which, probably, with due exertion, I might have acquired; but I have gained many domestic blessings which more than counterbalance it, and I can yet turn to my pen, in my short intervals of occasional relaxation, with as much zest as in my days of romantic adolescence."

Of the poems now collected in these volumes we are not called to give any special judgment. Public estimate has long since been formed of the poetry of Delta. To republish so many of his pieces will gratify his friends, but will not raise his poetic reputation. The editor would have done well to have followed more rigidly the advice of Professor Wilson, "that the selection should be a narrow and severe one." Few of the poems will have enduring fame. Yet there is always a gentleness and sweetness, and at times a tenderness and depth of feeling, as in his well-known lines to his lost child, 'Casa Wappy,' by which his claim to a place among true poets has been established. In his 'Domestic Verses,' published separately in 1843, his peculiar vein is best seen, and in the following extract of a letter from Lord Jeffrey is justly characterized:—

"I cannot resist the impulse of thanking you, with all my heart, for the deep gratification you have afforded me, and the soothing, and, I hope, *betting* emotions which you have excited. I am sure that what you have written is more genuine pathos than anything almost I have ever read in verse, and is so tender and true, so sweet and natural, as to make all lower recommendations indifferent."

For the sake of any readers who may yet be unacquainted with Delta's poetry, we select two brief but characteristic pieces, the one showing the descriptive power, and the other the simple pathos, of his style. In one of his poems he thus describes

"MORNING."

"'Twas the flush of dawn; on the dewy lawn
Shone out the purpling day;
The lark on high sang down from the sky,
The thrush from the chestnut spray;
On the lakelet blue the water-coot
Oared forth with her sable young;
While at its edge, from reed and sedge,
The fisher-heron upsprung;
In peaceful pride, by Esk's green side,
The shy deer strayed through Roslin glen;
And the hill-fox to the Roman camp
Stole up from Hawthornden."

In his 'Domestic Verses,' the following is one of nine stanzas describing the

"REMEMBRANCE OF A DEPARTED CHILD."

"And sweet it was, on summer days,
To saunter through the park,
Amid the frisking lambs at graze,
And listen to the lark;
While thou wouldst run before, behind,
Blue-bell and butter-cup to find;
A gaysome elf, whose heart had ne'er
Been tamed by grief, or scathed by fear:
I see thy flush'd and open brow;
I hear thy soft voice, even now;
And scent the wild-flowers bright and bland,
Compress'd within thy warm white hand.
Still bloom the daisies there; the bee
Booms round each fragrant spot;
The small birds sing from bush and tree;
And only thou art not!"

If 'The Deserted Churchyard' had been more carefully wrought, and had ended with more force, it would have been a noble poem. As it is, Mr. Aird rightly speaks of it as "his highest imaginative piece," "in its ideal abstractions and solemn imagery worthy of Collins."

Of Moir's professional ability, his benevolence to the poor, his domestic history and habits, the tranquil tenor and religious spirit of his life, his last illness, and peaceful death, Mr. Aird has given a series of truthful and pleasing pictures. Our love for Delta as a man is increased. "Amiable" was an epithet usually, and we now know how justly, applied to him. "A fine melodious nature," was Carlyle's remark, in speaking of his death. We can easily excuse the biographer of such a man if he somewhat unduly estimates his poetry. With Burns and Scott and Campbell, and other modern "masters of Scottish song," he cannot be classed, but among poets of his own day he holds a high place; and there are two or three of his pieces which will live in English literature.

The Wanderer in Syria. By G. W. Curtis. Bentley.

THERE is nothing very novel in a journey along the south-eastern borders of the Mediterranean, from Cairo to Jerusalem and Damascus, but it is pleasant to meet with an accomplished American writer, although his pictures of travel may be a little fanciful and affected. When Mr. Curtis is detailing his wanderings in the Desert or in Palestine with tolerable simplicity his style is good, and the reader feels interested; but when the author labours to invest his narrative with an extra-oriental feeling, it becomes desultory and insipid. The following is a characteristic description of Cairo:—

"The bazaars and busy streets of Cairo are as much thronged as the quays of Naples. Through the narrow ways swarms a motley multitude, either walking or bestriding donkeys, but the wealthier and official personages upon foot. The shouts of the donkey-boys are incessant; and when a pacha's coming is announced by the imperative crack of the long whip, flourished by an Arab runner in short white drawers and tarboosh or red cap, the excitement and confusion in a street, which a carriage almost chokes, becomes frenzied. The conceited camels groping through the crowd, are jammed and pushed against the horses; the donkey-boys are flattened sideways in the same manner. Pedlars of all kinds crowd to the wall, there is a general quarrelling and scolding, as if every individual were aggrieved that any other should presume to be in the way, while suddenly in the midst, through the Jane of all this lazy and cackling life, rumbles the huge carriage, bearing a white-bearded, fat Turk to the council or the harem. Only the little donkeys stand then for democracy, and persist in retaining their tails where, for the purposes of honourable obeisance to the dignitary, their heads should be, and receive a slashing cut for their inflexible adherence to principles."

"Through this restless crowd in the dim, unpaven, high-walled streets of Cairo, strings of camels perpetually pass, threading the murmurous city life with the desert silence. They are like the mariners in tarpaulins and pea-jackets, who roll through the streets of sea-ports and assert the sea. For the slow, soft tread of the camel, his long, swaying movement, his amorphous and withered frame, and his level-lidded, unhuman and repulsive eyes, like the eyes of demons, remind the Cairene of the desert, and confirm the mood of melancholy in his mind."

"You pass on to the bazaars. No aspect of life in any city is so exciting to the imagination as the oriental bazaars. They are narrow streets, walled by the lofty houses from whose fronts project elaborate lattices, and on each side is a continuous line of shops, which are small square cells in the houses, entirely open to the street, and raised two or three feet above it. Over the whole, between the house-tops, is stretched a canopy of matting, shutting out the sky. In the little niches, or shops, surrounded by their wares, sit the turbaned merchants, silent or chatting solemnly, smoking and sipping coffee, or bending and muttering in prayer. A soft mellow shadow permeates the space, or golden glints of sunlight flash through the rents in the matting above. There is no noise but the hushed murmuring of a crowd, sometimes the sharp oath of a donkey driver, or the clear, vibrating call of the Muezzin."

"As we move slowly through the bazaar, and our donkey-boy shouts imperatively 'O old man, depart, depart! O maiden, fly! the Howadji comes, he comes, he comes!'—the merchants scan us gravely through the clouds that curl from their chibouques. But the eyes of one among them sparkle graciously. It is a friend of the Commander's, who purposes to take gold from the unbelievers, and at his niche we alight, and the old men and maidens fly no longer. The merchant spreads for us a prayer-carpet from Bagdad, or a Persian rug, upon which we seat ourselves, while chibouques are lighted, and a small, soft-eyed Arab boy runs to the neighbouring café, and returns with rich, sweet coffee."

Our traveller gives a striking account of his journey across the Desert, not unmixed, however, with a little romance, after the most approved Oriental method. But we must hasten on towards Jerusalem. Arrived at Gaza, his heart becomes filled with the many pleasant traditional and historical associations of the Holy Land:—

"No landscape was ever more beautiful than that which greeted my eyes this morning—doubly beautiful for the long desert journey, and the dreary quarantine. The little hill on which stands Gaza, waved in gentle and graceful undulations, bearing pomegranate, and orange, and date trees, mimosas, and acacias in its swell, and among them wound quiet lanes hedged by prickly pear and aloe. Grain waved softly from the distance, and out of the luxurious green, rose the minaret of Gaza, with groups of low houses clustering around it."

"Gaza was called the capital of Palestine, and in the ruins of white marble sometimes found there, it is hard to see anything else than the remains of the temple which Samson destroyed."

"Our road led by a cemetery of domed tombs. It was bare and desolate, like a ruined town. Then, passing along a spacious avenue, shaded with trees, we emerged upon a sea of grain. It was darkened at intervals by venerable, scraggy olives, and rocking through it upon MacWhirter, [the author's camel,] I saw, beyond, a vast reach of bare, green land, partly grain, partly waste. Far away upon the eastern horizon—a misty blue rampart—stretched a range of hills, the mountains of Judea. Toward the west the green shrank away into low, melancholy sand-mounds, and so crept to the sea."

"The landscape was so fresh and fair, that I could have sung with the meadow-larks that darted, singing, in the sun. But it was so lonely, and mournful, that the song would have been too sad

for a bird's singing. Far as I could see, before and around me, there was no town, no sign of vigorous life. It was akin to the sublime solitude of the Roman Campagna, if to its present desolation you add the nodding grain of its earlier cultivation. In outline, and extent, and hue, the hills were not unlike the Sabine or Volscian mountains, seen from Rome."

"Passing this tract upon a grassy path, we crossed a belt of low hills, and descended into a series of basins, or dry lake-like reaches of arable land. There were infrequent groves of olives, whose silvery, sere foliage, and rough, gnarled trunks, did not disturb the universal sadness by any gaiety of form or feeling. All day the blue line of the Judean hills waved along the horizon, pointing the way to Jerusalem. Patches of grain sang in the low wind. Grain makes the landscape live, thrilling it with soft motion. Grass or turf is like lining, but grain like long silken hair. Presently we were in the midst of ploughing. Hundreds of acres of ploughed land stretched beyond sight, and the general agricultural activity was strange to see. The plough was the same that Joseph and Mary saw when they fled along this land to Egypt, and the teams of camels and donkeys harnessed together, and the turbaned husbandmen in flowing garments, would have dismayed our most antiquated cattle-show."

Jerusalem stands upon the point of a long reach of table-land:—

"The ravines between the city and the adjacent hills are the valleys of Jehoshaphat and Hinnom. The Mount of Olives is the highest of these adjacent hills, and commands Jerusalem. It is crowned by a convent, deserted now; and at its foot, toward the city, on the shore of the brook Kedron, is the Garden of Gethsemane—a small, white-walled inclosure of old olives. There are no roads about the city. It is not accessible for carriages, nor would its narrow streets permit them to pass. This profound silence characterises all the Eastern cities, in which wheels do not roar, nor steam shriek, and invests them, by contrast, with a wonderful charm. The ways that lead to the gates of Jerusalem are horse-paths, like dry water-courses. No dwellings cluster about the city, except the village of Siloam, a group of gray stone houses on the steep side of the deepest part of the valley of Jehoshaphat. In that valley, also, is the tomb of Absalom, a clumsy structure, but one of the most conspicuous objects outside the walls; and the graves of the Jews covered with flat slabs, the great number of which, crowded together, seems to pave parts of the valley. Pools and fountains are there also, sacred in all Christian memories."

Bethlehem is next visited:—

"Our way rolled through the billowy land, and we reached at length, stern little Bethlehem, sitting, like a fortress, upon the mountain."

"A large church is its chief feature, and as you stand in its cold vastness, you would be in Italy, except for the swarthy faces, whose mysterious eyes follow your movements with grave curiosity. It is nothing but a large cold church, garrisoned by a few friars, and seems discordant with that spot where nothing cold or bare should be. With very mingled emotions you descend towards the grotto, directly under the church, which makes Bethlehem famous. Winding with tapers down narrow steps, you emerge in the irregular excavations among the rock, and behold what they call the cell of St. Jerome.—But you do not linger. The Franciscan precedes you to the Grotto of the Nativity, and there can be no reasonable doubt of its identity. He opens the door. A gleam of soft light and a warm odour of incense stream outward. In that moment there is no more Franciscan, nor Italian church, nor taper. Your knees bend beneath you, and your eyes close."

"They open upon the Grotto, gorgeous with silver and golden lamps, with vases and heavy tapestries, with marbles and ivories—dim with the smoke of incense, and thick with its breath. In the hush of sudden splendour it is the secret cave of Ala-ed-deen, and you have rubbed the precious

lamp. Then your sense is seized in the voluptuous embrace of the odours,—of the brilliant flames, motionless in the warm air,—of the sheen of tapestry, and the flexile richness of the monks' robes at the altar, and your dazzled sense reels, an intoxicated Roman, through this Bethlehem grotto, which the luxurious Hadrian, after Rome had conquered Jerusalem, consecrated to Adonis.

"But you see that it is low and irregular, that the ceiling and walls are rock—that it is only a rough place of refuge, if you strip away gold and tapestry. You see human figures stretched motionless upon the ground, kissing a small circle of jasper with silver rays,—the shrine of all Christendom. The figures do not rise. They lie for long, long minutes speechless,—tears streaming from their eyes, and a sob vibrating at intervals through the Grotto.

"These are your mingled emotions in the Grotto of Bethlehem. Romance and Religion blend there more closely than at any other spot in the Holy Land."

At Damascus the author was much struck with the bazaars and cafés. We must conclude our notice with his account of the latter:—

"When you turn aside, just outside the bazaars, and pass beyond the gates, you are on the banks of Abana and Pharpar, rivers of Damascus. In this realm of water are the cafés, of which, sipping a *petit verre* in the Algerine café, upon the Parisian Boulevards, and looking at the Arab women there, some Howadji have vaguely dreamed. But nothing in civilised cities reminds you of these resorts. They are open spaces upon the banks of the streams, shielded by heavy foliaged trees from the sun, and secluded entirely from any noise but that of rushing water. The finest café is entered through a large room, whose walls are striped in the usual manner, and which is furnished with shabby stools, and multitudes of nargilehs, chibouques, and glass cups for sherbet and coffee. It opens into a cool, green seclusion, through which shoots a flashing stream, crossed by a little bridge. No café in the world, elsewhere, can offer a luxury so exquisite. In the hot day it proffers coolness and repose. We sit upon the little bridge, and through the massive foliage around us, catch gleams of the colour upon the nearest walls. The passionate sun cannot enter unrestrained; but he dashes his splendour against the trees, and they distil it in flickering drops of intense brightness upon the smooth, hard, black ground. We have his beauty but not his blaze. Supreme luxury! Even the proud sun shall help to cool us by the vivid contrast of the flecks of his light, with the mellow shadow in which we sit. Beneath leaps the swift river, gurgling gladness as it shoots, like a joyful boy in running. It sweeps for ever around an old greened wall below. It is for ever overhung by blossoming figs, and waving vines, and almonds which bower it as it passes, far overleaning to hear its forest tales of Lebanon. Around us sit figures clad in rainbow brilliance, which, in placing there, nature has preceded art and satisfied imagination. We sip sherbet of roses or smooth Mocha coffee.

"Nera! It is the fountained Kiosk of Damascus.

"Yet these resorts, with all their shabby stools and coarse matting, convey a finer sense of luxury than any similar attempt in Western life. In view of the purpose desired, these cafés are the triumph of art, although nothing can be simpler and ruder than the whole structure. They are the broadest and most obvious strokes in the adaptation of natural advantages to the greatest enjoyment. The streams are as wild as mountain brooks, the trees as untrimmed as in the forest, yet the combination satisfies the strongest desire of a hot climate—coolness and repose. These resorts are the country serving the city, but not emasculated of its original character. It serves the city as a negro slave clad in his native costume, in bright trinkets, and with braided hair, serves the citizen. As London in its vast parks secures for itself the

crown of city luxury, namely, the unchanged aspect of fields and woods, so that awaking upon Regent's-park, you shall seem, in the lowing and tranquil grazing of cattle, and in the singing of birds in the morning silence, to be a hundred miles from men, so is it here, except that here is the golden atmosphere of romance, and of the natural picturesque. But the London parks are only pastoral landscapes hung upon the city walls. The cafés of Damascus are passionate poems. There is the difference between a mild-eyed milkmaid and the swart magnificence of Zenobia.

"The best western suggestions of these Damascus delights are those German gardens where you sit smoking and sipping in pleasant arbours, listening to pleasant music, as at Nuremberg, under the picturesque old walls. But here again is all the difference between Albrecht Dürer and Hafiz. There is a marked vein of prose in everything German. The cafés of Damascus are pure poetry. Damascus in this regard makes Paris poor. The most brilliant cafés of the Boulevards are only rococo and artificial, measured by this natural art. They are elaborated à merveille. But the place itself differs from the Damascene type not less than the pretty grisette, in her piquant perfection of French attire, differs from the loosely robed, and jewelled, and golden-complexioned Syrian woman, not less than the clarified French coffee differs from the thick richness of Mocha. You sit upon the broad, gay street in Paris eating ices thicker and richer than those of the East, which are thin and watery like snow, watching the gaudy equipages, the staring parvenu houses, the hats, coats, bonnets, and dresses—all the bright tinsel of Parisian life; and over your eager mind, like a lull in a gusty day, steals the vision of Damascus, with the silent coolness of green shadows, and the gurgling coolness of rushing streams."

It will be seen from these extracts that Mr. Cox is a pleasing writer, but in striving to impart a novel aspect to an oft-told tale, he has drawn too freely on his imagination for effects.

NOTICES.

Democritus in London, with the Mad Pranks and Comical Conceits of Motley and Robin Goodfellow. Pickering.

THE names of Motley and Robin Goodfellow well describe the contents of this poem. It is a motley mixture of wit and mischief, of cleverness and dulness,—but the dulness and mischief greatly predominate over the cleverness and the wit. With 'London' for a theme, and the spirit of 'Democritus' as an inspiration, the author could not fail to produce some variety of amusement, and some pungency of satire. But the greater part of the poem is coarse and pointless, while the notes are made the vehicle of conveying narrow and sectarian opinions both on literature and religion. For instance, there is much sympathy expressed in one note for the cruel and superstitious James II., with sneers at 'what is called the glorious revolution of 1688.' Calvin is abused for consenting to the death of Servetus for blasphemy, although more than a century afterwards English judges continued to cause those accused of witchcraft to be burnt. Yet, in the seventeenth century, Hale is excused, on the plea of 'the spirit of the times,' for what is charged in the sixteenth century to Calvin's personal cruelty! Against English Protestants similar vulgar calumnies are revived. The 'Young Englandism' of the poem would have been more mischievous if its wit had been greater; but 'Democritus' has little of Hudibras but his rhyme. In the scenes of the City proper he has the fairest subjects for satire, although there may be difference of opinion as to the taste even of such passages as that in which the Lord Mayor and the Corporation are taken off:

"His brother aldermen behind,
Their way unwieldy waddling wind,
Each a *corpus sine pectore*
Pudding cram'd from the refectory!
In the common council fall,
Vegetable marrows all!
Florid specimens of feeding,
And a little brusque in breeding!"

We fear we can best describe the greater part of the poem in the expressive, if not elegant, terms of its author, when he says, "much of the so-called wit of the present day is begot by flatulence, born of fable, fed by folly, and nursed and maintained at the expense of virtue and the public." The piece appended to the poem, entitled 'The Stranger Guest,' shows that the author is capable of higher efforts.

Analysis and Critical Interpretation of the Hebrew Text of the Book of Genesis, preceded by a Hebrew Grammar, and Dissertations on the Genuineness of the Pentateuch. By the Rev. W. Paul, A.M., Banchoory, N. B. Blackwood and Sons.

IT is often said that the best way to learn any subject well is to teach it. Mr. Paul seems to have written this book while himself studying the Hebrew language. There are some advantages in an author not being very deeply acquainted with his subject, if intended for the instruction of those entirely ignorant of it. He is not apt to take anything for granted, but with careful minuteness and satisfactory precision guides the steps of the student. Mr. Paul has thus been able to produce a really practical and useful guide for beginners. The Hebrew text of the book of Genesis is given, and in the first three chapters all the words are also written in English, and syllabled, in order to facilitate the pronunciation. In the first chapter all the accents are marked, their names and powers given, and the reasons assigned when the words are accented contrary to the general rule. Every word is minutely analysed, and an index directs to the place where the analysis of recurring words is found. The analysis is preceded by a short grammar, founded on that of Dr. Lee. Prefixed to the work are some introductory dissertations on the genuineness of the Pentateuch, and of the book of Genesis in particular, with remarks on the structure of the language, and on some of the subjects of earliest revelation, as of the 'Cosmogony.' On some of the topics there is room for criticism, but the Dissertations are scarcely of originality or importance sufficient to call for it.

Ein Westfale. Roman von H. Breusing. 3 vols. Braunschweig: Vieweg. London: Williams and Norgate.

A NEW subject by a new writer. To the English public Herr Breusing is altogether unknown, but after the careful perusal of the three volumes on our table, we venture to predict that he will not long remain so. Even now, we scarcely know of any German novelist who surpasses him in elegance and strength of diction, fertility of invention, and thorough-going artistic cultivation. This is not very high praise, but such as it is, he is entitled to it. His 'Westphalian,' with its truthful descriptions of castle and peasant life in his native province, reminds us in many parts of the few exquisite touches of Westphalia which give so great a charm to Immermann's 'Münchhausen,' and which have in fact made that book popular in despite of its literary oddities. All the readers of 'Münchhausen' must remember the relief it was to their minds when, after long chapters of metaphysics and ribaldry, after dissertations on literature, Gutzkow, and Justinus Kerner, they lighted on a few chapters of Westphalian village life, with its simplicity, loneliness, strange customs, and stranger superstitions. One is inclined to quarrel with Immermann for stinting his readers of this the most palatable fare. With equal excellences Herr Breusing's work is open to the same objections. His *villeggiatura* is of surpassing beauty, but he gives us too little of it. His second volume is devoted to a fanciful excursion into the Orient. His oriental sketches are very clever, but they are not exactly what one expects from the pen of "a Westphalian."

Lectures to Young Men; delivered at Exeter Hall, 1851-52. Nisbet and Co.

THE annual series of Lectures delivered before 'The Young Men's Christian Association' during the past session. In reviewing last year's course, we expressed regret that so good an opportunity of obtaining lectures of a high order was thrown

away, and that the managing committee seemed to think that piety without intellect was most desirable, and a clerical title was sufficient qualification for a lectureship. We specially noticed one lecture, entitled, 'God in Science,' full of puerile and erroneous statements, but which, coming from the mouth of a clergyman, would have more weight than a truly philosophic discourse adapted to a popular audience by such men as Hugh Miller or Faraday. The same want of sense is apparent in this volume, the bulk of which is of the sermon style, and more adapted for the pulpit than a public assembly. Of the twelve lecturers engaged for the course, eleven were clergymen. Better men than some of these could not be found, nor better subjects selected; but the committee would promote the highest objects of their Association by a little more liberality and judgment being manifested in the choice of their lectures, which would cause the annual volume to possess more variety as well as more value.

The Nature and Treatment of Diseases of the Heart.
By James Wardrop, M.D. Churchill.

THE heart, as the very centre from which flows the vitalising influence to every organ and tissue of the body, has at all times commanded the attention of the physiologist studying its functions, the pathologist investigating its diseases, and the public at large interested in its uninterrupted movements. Resembling in its action an hydraulic machine with its valves and apparatus, yet intimately associated with the functions of the brain, the nervous system, the lungs, and indeed with all the viscera, the functions and diseases of the heart have been regarded in different lights as the tendencies of the observer inclined towards its vital or its physical functions. Since the announcement by Laennec of the principles of physical diagnosis founded on auscultation and percussion, medical men have generally more closely attended to those conditions which thus can be revealed to them. Dr. Wardrop, however, has pursued a different course. His inquiry tends to the investigation of the relations which the heart and the general system bear to each other in their healthy or physiological condition and in their disturbed or pathological state. The author's observations are founded on extended experience, and his suggestions are such as will prove valuable to all engaged in the study of heart complaints.

A Manual of Metallurgy, or Practical Treatise on the Chemistry of the Metals. By John Arthur Phillips. Griffin and Co.

THIS treatise belongs to the new edition of the 'Encyclopædia Metropolitana,' in the division of Applied Sciences. Besides the practical matter of the volume in which the more important processes of extracting metals from their ores are detailed, there is a chapter on Crystallography, on the system of Dufrenoy, whose pupil Mr. Phillips was, and another on Natural and Artificial Fuels. The volume, which contains numerous illustrations, is a most complete and practical manual of metallurgic science and art.

SUMMARY.

A NEW edition of Professor Anthon's *Anabasis of Xenophon*, with English notes, is published under the revision of Dr. John Doran. Dr. Anthon has edited, and elucidated by notes, several of the ancient classics, and whatever he has undertaken he has performed in a scholarly style. At the same time his books are entirely free from pedantry, and the notes and comments are so plain and useful, that they are as popular with boys as they are convenient for teachers. Findlay's map of the route of the Ten Thousand, and a plan of the battle of Cunaxa, are prefixed. Dr. Doran's part in the present edition consists chiefly in the mechanical duties of a classical editor, and calls for no praise but that of careful diligence.

Various other useful school-books are before us, as *Guy's New Speaker*, by Joseph Guy, jun., a book of selections of poetry and prose from standard English authors. The selection is not very wide in

its range, but judicious and practical, as might be expected from the editor's great experience in the scholastic profession. Of *Carpenter's Arithmetic*, a new edition appears by W. Rutherford, LL.D., of the Royal Military Academy at Woolwich.

A volume of *Thoughts on Various Subjects*, by the author of 'Memoirs of a Working Man,' is both in spirit and matter highly creditable to the writer, and will be profitable to the reader. Among the subjects are, 'the Care of Health,' 'on Men called Great,' 'Sacred Poetry,' 'Human Happiness.'

A little treatise, entitled *Practical Experience in Breeding, Rearing, and Fattening of Domestic Poultry*, by Joseph Newton, will be valued for the plain and practical directions which it contains, and which are entirely the result of the writer's own observation and experience. Mr. Newton shows how the hatching and rearing of poultry may be best combined with horticulture.

Reprinted from the 'Gardener's Chronicle,' a series of papers on orchidaceous plants is published under the title of *The Orchid-Grower's Manual*, by Benjamin S. Williams, gardener to Mr. Warner of Hoddesdon, Herts. Brief descriptions are given of about 260 species, with notices of their habits and times of flowering, and practical directions for their culture. The book is written in a plain popular way, as might be expected from the original title given to the papers, 'Orchids for the Million.' How far Mr. Williams is qualified to give advice on the subject is sufficiently testified by the fact of his having obtained, in the prize competitions at Chiswick and the Regent's Park, twenty-three gold and twelve silver medals for orchids, besides fourteen silver medals for ferns. For 40l. or less a very good orchid-house, with hot-water apparatus, may be put up, so that the culture of these plants is now likely to be much extended, and the humblest florist may successfully cultivate many beautiful species by the help of Mr. Williams' 'Manual.'

The second volume of *Michaud's History of the Crusades*, translated by W. Robson, contains the narratives of the fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh crusades, concluding with the return of Louis IX. to France, A.D. 1255.

Mr. Henry Curling, a half-pay officer of the 52nd Light Infantry, offers suggestions *On the Formation of Volunteer Rifle Corps*, as a guarantee against the risk of invasion. We have already met Mr. Curling as an author, and cannot say much for his style; but he has a right subject here, and as he addresses himself to the gentry and "sportsmen of England," he may have adapted his language to those to whom he is writing. Connected with the same subject may be mentioned a short account of the *Career of Louis Napoleon*. That the President has had the invasion of England strongly in his mind is known to some of his friends, and by them has been made no secret. But apart from private statements, the remarkable words spoken by him in his defence before the Chamber of Peers ought not to be forgotten. "I represent a Principle, a Cause, and a Defeat. The Principle is the Sovereignty of the People, the Cause is that of the Empire, the Defeat is—Waterloo."

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

- Austin's Golden Steps for Youth of both Sexes, 1s. 6d.
Barbauld's Selections from the Spectator, 2 vols. 12mo, 7s.
Bell's (A.) Historical Sketch of Feudalism, 12mo, cloth, 3s.
Beranger's Lyrical Poems, translated by Anderson, 2s. 6d.
Bohn's Standard Library, Vasari's Lives of Painters, 3s. 6d.
—— Classical Library, Ovid Literally Translated, cl., 5s.
—— Scientific Library, Bridgewater Treatises, cloth, 5s.
—— Illustrated Library, Rome in 19th Century, Vol. 1, 5s.
Budd on the Liver, 2nd edition, 8vo, cloth, 16s.
Bonaparte's Life, by W. Hazlitt, cloth, 3s. 6d.
Burke's (E.) Works and Correspondence, Vol. 5, 8vo, 12s.
Carmina non prius Audita, 12mo, cloth, 1s. 6d.
Chambers's Educational Course, Political Economy, 2s.
Cowie's Book-Binder's Manual, 7th edition, 12mo, 2s. 6d.
Cumming's Voices of the Dead, 12mo, cloth, 7s.
Dick's Celestial Scenery, new edition, 12mo, cloth, 5s. 6d.
Earle's (S.) Passages in Life of G. Arnold, 12mo, cloth, 5s.
Eclipse of Faith, post 8vo, cloth, 9s. 6d.
Farrand on Man, Natural and Spiritual, 12mo, cloth, 5s.
Forsyth's Memoirs, 3rd edition, 8vo, cloth, 10s. 6d.
Grandineau's (F.) Conversations, 9th edition, 12mo, 3s.
Grant's (D.) Modern British Biography, 12mo, 3s. 6d.
Hamilton's Sixteen Months in Danish Isles, 2 vols, 21s.

- Harrison's Strictures of Urethra, 8vo, cloth, 7s. 6d.
Hart's (W. H.) Stenography, small 4to, cloth, 4s. 6d.
Hazlitt's Shakspeare, Vol. 5, 2s. 6d.
Heighway's Lelia Ada, the Jewish Convert, 12mo, 3s. 6d.
Jean's Trigonometry, Part 1 and 2, 12mo, cloth, each, 4s.
—— Complete, 12mo, cloth, 7s. 6d.
Jenoue's (Rev. A.) Rationale Apocrypticum, 2 vols., 28s.
Kaltchmidt's German Dictionary, Part 1, 12mo, roan, 5s.
Kippis's Hymns, new edition, with Supplement.
Lost Steamer, a History of the Amazon, 12mo, 3s. 6d.
Lectures Delivered before Young Men's Society, 2s. 6d.
Lillywhite's Cricketer's Guide, 1852, 12mo, cloth, 1s. 6d.
Marlborough (Duke), Life of, by MacFarlane, 2s. 6d.
Martin's (Henry) Memoirs, 17th edition, 12mo, cloth, 6s.
Melville's (The), 3 vols. post 8vo, £1 11s. 6d.
Mundy's (Col. G. E.) Our Antipodes, 3 vols. 8vo, £2 2s.
Neale's Residence in Siam, post 8vo, cloth, 2s. 6d.
Nouet's Life and Death, translated by C. E. Spencer, 3s.
Our Doctor and other Tales from Kirkbeck, 12mo, cl., 5s.
Partridge's (J. W.) Idea of a Christian, 8vo, cloth, 1s. 6d.
Pastor in the Wilderness, 3 vols. post 8vo, £1 11s. 6d.
Peguillo, a Tale, by James, 3 vols. post 8vo, £1 11s. 6d.
Pratt's (J. T.) Law of Highways, 6th edition, 12mo, 6s.
Reed's (Dr.) No Fiction, 12th edition, 12mo, cloth, 5s.
Roberts's (T. A.) Principles of Equity, 8vo, cloth, 12s.
Sforza (F.) Duke of Milan, Life and Times of, 2 vols., 25s.
Smith's (Rev. T. T.) Sermons, 2nd edition, 12mo, 5s. 6d.
Strickland's Queens of England, Vol. 8, 8vo, cloth, 12s.
Taylor's (J.) Political Economy, illustrated, 1s. 6d.
Traveller's Library, Werne's African Wanderings, 1s. each.
Tytler's Lelia at Home, 2nd edition, 12mo, cloth, 6s.
Winslow's (Rev. O.) No Condemnation, post 8vo, cloth, 7s.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.

April 27th.

PERMIT me to draw the attention of antiquaries to the address of our President, delivered at the recent anniversary of the Society, wherein he holds out expectation for the future that the energies of the Council will be directed by him to a more enlightened appropriation of our annual balance than has hitherto been the custom—viz., that of adding it to our already large accumulated fund. The only apparent use, in fact, for either, till now, has been to add tones of gratulation to the annual statements of the Society's treasurer. Should the Council adopt these suggestions of Lord Mahon, and in accordance resolve henceforth, from the ample funds at their disposal, to lend a fostering aid to the various projects of archaeological exploration and antiquarian research that may from time to time be brought under their notice, we shall not again realize the humiliating spectacle of seeing such laudable efforts languish from the chilling neglect of that Society whose office it should be to promote them. From the tone of the address, which it gave me real pleasure to listen to, we may hope not only that the rich fields for archaeological investigation we possess at home will fall within the scope of the Society's future intentions, but that even the appeal of a Layard from the plains of Nineveh may not be altogether disregarded.

That the Society of Antiquaries has latterly evinced a degree of life within its walls, the active inquiry instituted by it on the occasion of the discovery of the remains of Bishop Lyndewode, in the crypt of St. Stephen's, may be instanced as a favourable example; though possibly some may object, in a few particulars, to the manner in which the exhumation of the prelate was conducted under its auspices. More recently, the Fellows are entitled to some credit for having entered a spirited and unanimous protest against the threatened demolition, by the Corporation of London, of the beautiful old crypt beneath Gerrard's Hall, Basing-lane, upon the plea which has been already publicly shown to be untenable—"of necessity, on account of modern improvements." Should such protest be disregarded, and the act of Vandalism be allowed to proceed against one of the very few and most interesting of the vestiges of ancient London we now possess, an immense responsibility will rest on the shoulders of the city authorities, and the sentiments of the venerated of these landmarks of the early history of our metropolis (amongst whom they possess in you a warm adherent) will be proportionably outraged.

J. W. B.

WOLFE AT QUEBEC.

A CORRESPONDENT at Edinburgh sends the authority for the anecdote of Wolfe quoting Gray's Elegy in the boat on the night before the battle, which Mr.

Bancroft in his 'History of the Americans' mentions as if newly gathered from local tradition.

(From a biographical account of Professor Robison, by Professor Playfair):—

"Edinburgh, April 23.
"An anecdote which he also used to tell, deserves well to be remembered. He happened to be on duty in the boat in which General Wolfe went to visit some of his posts, the night before the battle, which was expected to be decisive of the fate of the campaign. The evening was fine, and the scene, considering the work they were engaged in, and the morning to which they were looking forward, sufficiently impressive. As they rowed along, the General, with much feeling, repeated nearly the whole of Gray's Elegy (which had appeared not long before, and was yet but little known) to an officer who sat with him in the stern of the boat; adding, as he concluded, that 'he would prefer being the author of that poem to the glory of beating the French to-morrow.'

"To-morrow came, and the life of this illustrious soldier was terminated, amid the tears of his friends and the shouts of his victorious army. Quebec fell, of course; and soon afterwards the fleet under Admiral Saunders sailed for England."

Robison was a lieutenant in the *Royal William* at Quebec in 1759. By the way, the *Royal William* survived till my time, and I saw her in 1809 at Portsmouth. A. M.

NINEVEH.

April 27th.

I OBSERVE in the last number of the 'Literary Gazette' that the excavations at Koyunjik have brought to light a royal burial place of the age of the Seleucidæ. If this is the case, it would indicate a temporary revival of Nineveh, or an accidental burial at that spot; for we know that one hundred years before the foundation of the Seleucidæ dynasty, the Greeks found both Nimrod, or Larissa, as Xenophon calls it, and Nineveh (Mespylæ, as the Athenian writes it), ruinous and deserted.

The circumstance of a mask of thin gold being pressed upon the face, so as to retain the features of the deceased, also occurred in the instance of a body exhumed by Captain Lynch, I.N., at Zelebe, the favourite summer retreat of Zenobia, on the Euphrates. The mask is, I believe, preserved in the museum of the East India Company.

WILLIAM FRANCIS AINSWORTH.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

THE agitation in favour of retaining the Crystal Palace has elicited a compromise from the Government, which we accept with unmingled satisfaction. The building is not to be destroyed; it is to be removed. Instead of being sold to our Parisian neighbours for erection in the Champ de Mars, the Government offers to assist the contractors and purchasers in its removal to Battersea Park. Lord John Manners has done wisely, and we trust that he will confirm his manly adherence to the good wishes of the people by securing the building, in his official capacity, to their use. The facilities of water-carriage for the conveyance of the masses by the river are far easier than those of land-carriage by the dusty road. We retain our fairy palace, the royal park is preserved intact, the malcontents are appeased, and the working classes have no reason to be disappointed. While reading the debates on this subject in the House of Commons, we could not help noticing with regret the shameful abuse that was lavished by the late Commissioner of Woods and Forests on his worthy predecessor in office. Few men have more truly endeared themselves to the hearts of the people than the noble Earl of Carlisle. Few have shown themselves more regardless of their interests, and, in this instance, less worthy of nobility, than Lord Seymour.

The Board of Directors of the 'Cercle de la Librairie, de l'Imprimerie, de la Papeterie, &c.,' of Paris, i.e., the trade association of publishers, booksellers, printers, stationers, and bookbinders, has recommended to all members of the Society to insert henceforth, in every volume published by them, the following declaration.—"The author and publisher of this work reserve to themselves the right to translate it, or to cause it to be translated in all languages. They will prosecute, in virtue of laws, decrees, and international treaties, all piracies either of the text or the engravings, and

all translations made in violation of their rights. The legal deposit of this work has been made at Paris (or at —), and all formalities prescribed by treaties have been fulfilled in the different states with which France has concluded literary conventions." Music publishers and print dealers are invited to make similar declarations; and it is intimated that the Association has correspondents abroad to watch over its interests. In presence of this notification, we repeat our warning to publishers, translators, and others, that if they wish to avoid heavy penalties and costly actions at law, they must not translate or reprint any French work whatsoever without formal permission. We may also tell the same parties, that if, on the other hand, they be desirous of obtaining the profit which will result from a translation of their works into French, they would do well to place an announcement to that effect at the beginning of each of their volumes, and to take care to fulfil the formalities prescribed by the recent treaty between the two countries.

Letters have been received by M. de Longpérier, Conservator of the Antiquities of the Louvre, from M. Fresnel and his companions, who were sent on the scientific expedition to the East, by the French Government. At Aleppo M. Oppert copied a fine inscription from Palmyra, and took impressions of many stones brought from various places. The expedition reached Diarkebir on the 13th February, and Mossoul on the 4th of March. Casts were taken of the finest sculptures at the palace of Koyunjik. On the 17th they left for Bagdad, the furthest point which they have charge to explore. M. Victor Place, successor of M. Botta as consul, arrived at Mossoul early in January, and the excavations round Khorsabad have been continued vigorously, with new discoveries, and operations have been commenced at Karakosch and Karemlel.

The compiler of letter A has again been summoning an unfortunate bookseller to Bow Street for not delivering at the British Museum a three-penny pamphlet published in 1849, which probably helped to delay the Catalogue. It is very discreditable to the country that our public officers should be allowed to act in this oppressive manner. Such conduct would be unworthy of the government of Louis Napoleon. We pay largely in taxes for the maintenance of the British Museum, and if publishers are to contribute five gratuitous copies of every new work for the use of the national libraries, surely some arrangement might be adopted for collecting them. The law as it now stands requires the publisher of every new book to send a copy almost immediately on its publication to the British Museum. The keeper of the library is not required to send for the book, or to give any notice of its non-delivery, (as in the case of the non-payment of stamp duties,) but is allowed the power of summoning the publisher without notice to the felon's bar, where he is mulcted in a fine and costs.

The Earl of Rosse, as President of the Royal Society, gave his first *soirée* for the season last Saturday. It was honoured by the attendance of Prince Albert, and a large number of literary and scientific men. Among the objects of interest in the room we observed Mr. Shepherd's electrical clock, which has been approved by the Astronomer Royal, and which is intended to convey Greenwich mean time to all the principal railway stations in England. Professor Wheatstone exhibited his very ingenious stereoscope and pseudoscope inventions.

In the present embarrassments of the government with regard to the transportation of convicts to the colonies, an offer has been made by a Highland proprietor worthy of consideration. Sir James Matheson, M.P., has offered, as a gift, the island of North Rona, one of the remote Hebrides, to be used as a penal settlement. He has lately had it surveyed by an officer of the Royal Engineers. It is situated in lat. 59° 7' 15", and west longitude 5° 48' 50". It is nearly forty miles N.E. of the Butt of Lewis, and the same from Cape Wrath, forming with their two points a triangle. The greatest breadth is about a mile, and length the

same. It contains 270 acres, of which 200 are arable. At present only 200 sheep are supported on the island, under a farmer of Lewis. Macculloch visited the place, and in his account of it he speaks of its loneliness:—"To sit on this spot, whence no trace of human existence is visible, and to contemplate from such narrow bounds the expanse of water everywhere meeting the eye, produces a feeling of solitude and abandonment like that of a deserted mariner on a distant rock." The hills of Sutherland can, however, be seen from the highest point (360 feet) of the island, but its lonely seclusion would make it an admirable prison. The light expense of such a settlement is also a point worthy of being taken into account. The cost of the voyage and annual maintenance of convicts to distant settlements is about 40*l.*, this would not be above 15*l.*, a saving of 100,000*l.* in four years on 1000 convicts. Their labour would also be more available near home.

A granite monument to the memory of the late Maréchal Marmont, Duke of Ragusa, has been erected in the cemetery of St. Vorler, at Chatillon. The tomb was designed by the Maréchal himself. On one side is this Latin inscription:—

"Gloriæ studium, patriæque charitas
Vitæ suæ actionibus incitamenta fuere.
Vitam si illustrem ærumnis tamen plenam egit.
In secundis moderato et benevolenti
In adversis rebus placido patientique animo se tulit."

On another side is:—

"Patriæ totus et ubique."

A new English paper has been started at Boulogne, called 'The French Times.' The English residents at Boulogne are about 5000, and the number of visitors swells to 15,000 during the season. There is room for a local paper in such a place, and if well conducted, as the first number promises, it deserves success. Anything, however, so low and silly as the letter of the 'London Correspondent,' we have rarely seen in type.

Mr. G. Rickards, M.A., has been elected Professor of Political Economy at Oxford, in room of Mr. Nassau Senior, whose term of office had expired. The votes in Convocation were—for Mr. Rickards, 211; Mr. Neale, Oriel, 158; Mr. Lowe, Magdalen, 133. Mr. Rickards gained the Newdegate Prize Poem in 1830.

The late W. F. Stephenson, Esq., F.R.S., has bequeathed the fourth of his personal property to the Royal Society, subject to certain present life annuities.

There is a serious design on foot at Paris for erecting a theatre, which for extent would almost vie with a Roman circus of old—one with eight thousand places. The performances, it is proposed, shall be chiefly military and other spectacles, and be specially intended for the amusement of the lower classes. The largest theatre now existing in Paris, the Cirque, contains only 2250 places.

The annual meeting of the members of the Art Union of London was held on Tuesday, in the Lyceum Theatre, Lord Londesborough in the chair. The report was read by Mr. Godwin, F.R.S. It was stated that the Flaxman medal, which the late Mr. Wyon, R.A., was to have executed, is entrusted to Mr. Leonard Wyon. The series of wood engravings for next year's subscription will be illustrative of 'Childe Harold.'

M. Quatrefages, the eminent French naturalist, has been elected a member of the Academy of Sciences of Paris, in the room of the late M. Savigny. He obtained, after two or three ballots, thirty-one votes to twenty-six given to M. Bernard. M. Quatrefages has taken great interest in the question of the artificial fecundation of fish, which has lately attracted serious attention in the scientific circles, and has produced extraordinary results in France.

The catalogue of the Easter book-fair at Leipzig contains 4527 works as published, and 1163 to be published. This is an increase of 700 volumes compared to the Michaelmas fair, and of 800 more than the last Easter fair. The number of publishers by whom the works have been brought out is 900. One house at Vienna has produced 113, and the Messieurs Brockhaus 95.

The 'San Francisco Herald' of March 7 records the occurrence of an inundation of the Sacramento

river, by which there had been great loss. The river rose seven inches above the highest mark of the flood of 1850. At the city of Marysville there had also been a great inundation, or freshet as there termed, from the rise of the river Yuba. In most parts of our own country excessive drought has prevailed till the last few days. At Manchester the fall of rain in two months was only three-tenths of an inch, and water was brought by railway from a great distance to supply the deficiency.

There are in Russia 130 Slavonian journals and periodicals, of which 9 are political and 53 official papers published by the various ministerial departments of the empire, 6 periodicals are devoted to military sciences, and there are 3 medical, 5 industrial, and 12 agricultural periodicals. The Polish journals which are published in Russia amount to the number of 22.

We learn from the German papers that Professor Gervinus, the literary critic and historian, and founder of the late 'Deutsche Zeitung,' is about to publish a 'History of Modern Times.'

The motion for abolishing tests in regard to the non-theological chairs of the Scottish universities has been thrown out, on the second reading in the House of Commons, by 172 to 157.

Dr. Maclure, one of the masters of the Edinburgh Academy, has been appointed by the Crown to the Professorship of Humanity in Marischal College, Aberdeen, vacant by the translation of Mr. Blackie to the Greek chair at Edinburgh.

Among the candidates for the chair of Moral Philosophy in Edinburgh, vacant by the resignation of Professor Wilson, are Professor Ferrier, of St. Andrews; Professor Macdougall, of New College, Edinburgh; Professor McCosh, of Belfast; Mr. J. D. Morell; Mr. George Ramsay, late of Trin. Col. Cam., now of Rugby; and Dr. W. L. Alexander, of Edinburgh.

The Commission for Inquiry into the University of Oxford have finished their report, which has been forwarded to Her Majesty.

The first stone of some new schools in connexion with the church of St. Thomas Charterhouse was laid by Lord Lansdowne on Wednesday.

PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES.

ANTIQUARIES—April 23rd.—To-day being St. George's day, the Fellows assembled, according to annual custom, to elect a President and Council for the year, when the ballot, as usual, being taken, the following gentlemen were found to be elected:—Eleven Members from the Old Council—viz., The Viscount Mahon, President; Sir Robert H. Inglis, Bart., V.P.; Samuel, Lord Bishop of Oxford, V.P.; J. P. Collier, Esq., V.P.; Capt. W. H. Smyth, V.P.; John Bruce, Esq., Treasurer; Joseph Gwilt, Esq.; Hon. R. C. Neville; James Prior, Esq.; Sir Henry Ellis, Secretary; John Yonge Akerman, Esq., Secretary. Ten Members of the New Council—viz., The Viscount Strangford, Director; The Earl of Albemarle; Rev. Dr. Bosworth; George Godwin, jun., Esq.; Dr. Augustus Guest; Alexander Beresford Hope, Esq., M.P.; Thomas William King, Esq., 'York Herald'; Octavius Morgan, Esq., M.P.; Henry Shaw, Esq.; Benjamin Williams, Esq. The President, in a short address, took a review of the labours of the Society during the present session, and incidentally mentioned a bequest of a large sum by a Fellow recently deceased—namely, Mr. Ford Stevenson, who, by his will, dated in 1848, left a considerable portion of his property to the Royal Society and the Society of Antiquaries. The proceedings of the day terminated by a dinner at the Freemasons' Tavern, to which M. Worsaae, the Danish antiquary, and M. Thomas, Professor of History in the college of Angers, were invited as guests.

ETHNOLOGICAL—March 17th.—Dr. Hodgkin, Vice-President, in the chair. 1. 'On the Ethnology of the Norse and Saxons in England, chiefly in reference to the Eastern Counties,' by W. D. Sanll, F.G.S. 2. 'A Communication from W. Burckhardt Barker, Esq., to the Hon. Sec., on the discovery of certain Terra Cottas at Tarsus, in

Cilicia (Asia Minor),' were read. Mr. Barker discovered, during his residence at Tarsus, a large number of terra cotta images, many of which are the Lares and Penates of the ancient Cilicians. These images are in a mutilated and fragmentary condition. It is difficult to conceive anything more beautiful than the modelling of some of the pieces. There are heads without trunks, trunks without heads and limbs, and limbs, both upper and lower extremities, of perfect form and exquisite workmanship. There are between two and three thousand lamps, several hundred of which are quite perfect, and amongst the heads are some which are remarkable for their ugliness. The whole height of the figures restored would vary from about eight inches to eighteen. The lamps are the size of the ancient Roman hand-lamps. Mr. Barker thinks these were destroyed and buried by the Cilicians on their conversion to Christianity, and that they were the collection of centuries before that epoch. Mr. Barker has termed the ugly-featured images representations of Huns, but he believes the real name to be *Khita*, (Hittites of Scripture?) a people of Asia Minor, whose chiefs were taken captive by Rameses III. In Rosellini's great work on Egyptian Antiquities, we find a representation of four kneeling figures, with their arms tied behind them. Each has a line of hieroglyphics stating who he is, and under the first is, "This is the vile slave from Tarsus of the sea." The features, however, of this are unfortunately imperfect. Under another captive in the same plate is in hieroglyphics, "Phoor Khasi em Khita in Sacca euh," i.e. "The chief of the *Khita* as a living captive." Two of Mr. Barker's terra cotta heads might be supposed to be the heads which are copied in Rosellini's work. The great likeness struck Mr. Birch, who on seeing the terra cotta at once referred to the plate in Rosellini. A few specimens of the terra cottas were placed on the table to illustrate Mr. Barker's views, and the present communication is only the precursor of an elaborate paper on the subject.

ENTOMOLOGICAL—April 5th.—J. O. Westwood, Esq., President, in the chair. Mr. Adam White exhibited some insects collected by Dr. Joseph Hooker in the Himalaya, among which was a male of *Urophora Hardwickii*, remarkable for the long hairy caudal appendage which it had been supposed hitherto was peculiar to the female, and *Derepteryx Hardwickii*, a Nepalese species of *Coreidae*. Mr. White also exhibited some *Coleoptera*, collected by Dr. Thompson in Little Tibet, at an elevation of 8000 feet, which were identical with British species. Mr. White then read extracts of a letter from J. D. Bowring, Esq., at Hong Kong, respecting various entomological matters; among others, that he had taken on Mount Parker a brachelytrous beetle, of which "the antennæ were pectinated so strongly as to be almost flabellate." Mr. Edwin Shepherd exhibited larvæ of *Botrys Urticæ*, spun up into cocoons for their change to the pupa state, under a piece of bark of a tree, where they had been through the winter. Mr. Douglas exhibited *Nepticula ignobilella*, reared from hazel leaves gathered in the autumn; larvæ of *Gelechia contigua* in terminal shoots of *Stellaria Holostea*, of *Gelechia fraternella* in terminal shoots of *Stellaria uliginosa*, and of a *Nepticula* mining in leaves of bramble. The President exhibited specimens of *Blatta Germanica*, sent to him from Kildare, where they had been very troublesome in a house, destroying food and other things, and sheltering themselves behind the skirting-boards of the kitchen. This species had not hitherto been recorded as noxious in houses. The President also read another letter, inquiring how *Blatta orientalis*, the common cockroach, could be best destroyed. Several members mentioned as remedies, basins baited with bread, phosphorus, a mixture of oatmeal and plaster of Paris, turpentine sprinkled about the room when they were active at night, and hedgehogs, to which these *Blattæ* were a favourite food. The President exhibited specimens of the new cochineal insect, named by M. Guérin Méneville, *Coccus fabæ*, from its feeding on

the common bean. It afforded a very brilliant colour, and the cultivation of it on an extensive scale had commenced in the south of France. Mr. Smith communicated an inquiry as to the best means of preventing the damage caused by some insect to the corks of bottled wine, whereby the wine escaped. It was suggested that a mixture of wax and resin put over the cork at the time of bottling, the cork being first cut close to the bottle, would hinder the insect, whatever it might be, from laying its eggs, or obtaining access itself into the cork. Mr. Douglas called the attention of the meeting to the subject of insects found impaled on thorns, stating it was Mr. Gould's opinion that they were not so placed by shrikes, as had been supposed, for he found some in a perfect state before shrikes had arrived in this country. Mr. Douglas requested that any examples found might be brought for exhibition, and that the position of the insect with regard to the thorn might be noticed when first discovered. Mr. Douglas exhibited a recently captured bee with three *stylops* in its abdomen. The President stated that not more than this number had been observed in a bee, but Dr. Burmeister had informed him that he saw seven in a wasp in Brazil. A note from S. S. Saunders, in Albania, was read to the effect that bees of the genus *Hylæus* were not parasites in other bees' nests, but stored up acidulous honey in cells of their own making. The Secretary read a translation of so much of Zeller's 'Revision of the Pterophoridae' as referred to the early states of those species whose larva is known.

CHEMICAL—March 15th.—Professor Daubeny, President, in the chair. Dr. Hofmann communicated a paper entitled 'Contributions towards the History of Tannic Acid,' by Dr. Strecker.

April 5th.—Colonel Philip Yorke, Vice-President, in the chair. Mr. Charles L. Bloxam read a paper 'On the Detection and Qualitative Separation of Tin, Antimony, and Arsenic, and on the Relation existing between these Metals and others which are precipitated from their acid solutions by Sulphuretted Hydrogen.'

ROYAL PHYSICAL OF EDINBURGH—At the concluding meeting of the winter session, on the 21st inst., Mr. Hugh Miller read a valuable paper 'On the Corals of the Oolitic System of Scotland,' with a notice of certain *Lithodomus* shells of the same period, by which some of the more massive species were hollowed in their recent state. Messrs. Milne Edwards, and Maine, in their 'Monograph of the British Fossil Corals,' figure only three Liasic species. In the lias of Skye, Mr. Miller has found many additional corals, of which he gave descriptions in his paper.

KILKENNY ARCHEOLOGICAL—March 6th.—Major-General M'Donald, C.B., in the chair. Twenty-nine new members were elected, and several interesting donations to the library and museum were laid on the table. Mr. Prim also exhibited, by permission of W. Jones, Esq., some curious objects of antiquity. The papers communicated to the meeting were, 'On a Newly Discovered Ogham Inscription at Tullowhern,' by Mr. Prim; 'Notes on Kilkenny Castle at the period of the late alterations,' by Mr. J. G. Robertson; 'On a Pagan Cemetery at Rathmoyle,' by the Rev. James Graves (a most interesting paper); 'An Extract on Dingle in the time of Elizabeth,' by Mr. Hitchcock; 'On the Traditions of Lough Cuillin,' by Mr. P. Cody; 'Gleanings from Irish Churchyards,' by Mr. Hitchcock; and 'On the Monumental Inscriptions in Timogue Church,' by Mr. D. Byrne.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Monday.—Royal Institution, 4 p.m.—(Mr. C. B. Mansfield, on the Chemistry of the Metals.)
—Entomological, 8 p.m.
—British Architects, 8 p.m.—(Anniversary.)
—Chemical, 8 p.m.
—School of Mines—(Natural History, 1 p.m.)—(Mining, 3 p.m.)

Tuesday.—Royal Institution, 3 p.m.—(E. Lankester, M.D., on the Physiology of Plants.)
 — Linnæan, 8 p.m.
 — Civil Engineers, 8 p.m.
 — Pathological, 8 p.m.
 — School of Mines—(Mechanics, 11 a.m.)—(Metallurgy, 1 p.m.)—(Geology, 3 p.m.)
Wednesday.—Royal Institution, 4 p.m.—(J. Conolly, M.D., on Insanity.)
 — Society of Arts, 8 p.m.
 — Geological, 8½ p.m.—(Sir C. Lyell, on the Tertiary of Belgium.)
 — School of Mines—(Chemistry, 11 a.m.)—(Mineralogy, 3 p.m.)
Thursday.—Royal Institution, 3 p.m.—(R. Westmacott, Esq., R.A., on the History and Practice of Sculpture.)
 — Royal, 8½ p.m.
 — Antiquaries, 8 p.m.
 — School of Mines—(Mechanics, 11 a.m.)—(Metallurgy, 1 p.m.)—(Mineralogy, 3 p.m.)
Friday.—Royal Institution, 8½ p.m.—(Professor E. Forbes, on the Supposed Analogy between the Life of an Individual and the Duration of a Species.)
 — Botanical, 8 p.m.
 — Philological, 8 p.m.
 — Archaeological Institute, 4 p.m.
 — School of Mines—(Chemistry, 11 a.m.)—(Natural History, 1 p.m.)—(Geology, 3 p.m.)
Saturday.—Royal Institution, 3 p.m.—(Professor Faraday, on Points connected with the Non-Metallic Elements.)
 — Medical, 8 p.m.
 — Royal Botanic, 4 p.m.

FINE ARTS.

ROYAL ACADEMY.

THE Eighty-fourth Exhibition of the Royal Academy, which will be opened to the public on Monday, presents many encouraging examples of the advancement of native art. One or two of our veteran painters do not exhibit this year; others exhibit only in a very limited degree; but in many of less experience there is a bold and manifest improvement. Of the Academicians neither Sir C. Eastlake, Sir Edwin Landseer, nor Herbert, have sent any pictures. Leslie has only one small and not very striking one, *Juliet*; and Mulready exhibits only a small landscape, with which many will be disappointed. The most striking picture, because least expected, is from the easel of David Roberts, a large and beautifully transparent view of *Venice*, evidently fresh from nature. Mr. Macclise has a remarkable picture, with somewhat of a pre-Raphaelite aspect, *Alfred the Saxon King, disguised as a Minstrel in the Tent of Guthrum the Dane*. Webster has four pictures, the largest of which, *A School Playground*, presents an admirable variety of character, as depicted in the faces of the boys at their different sports of peg-top, foot-ball, and marbles. Creswick exhibits three pictures of great depth and richness of tone, one of which, *The Sunset Hour*, is of especial merit. Lee and Cooper have two charming partnership productions, *Evening in the Meadows* and *Mountain Scenery, with Cattle*, besides several examples singly. Stanfield has three pictures, of which *The Bay of Baia from the Lake Avernus*, is a fine work; and Hart exhibits a picture of interest, entitled *The Three Inventors of Printing discussing the merits of the Invention of Moveable Types*. Among the Associates of the Academy, Mr. Frith stands prominently forward in his *Pope making Love to Lady Mary Wortley Montagu*, and Mr. Frank Stone in an interesting picture of botanical interest, entitled *Dr. Hooker in the Rhododendron Region of the Himalaya*. Mr. Millais has a picture of remarkable talent, while it is less extravagant in style, *A Huguenot, on St. Bartholomew's Day, refusing to shield himself from danger by wearing the Roman Catholic Badge*. Mr. Lance exhibits a rich example of colouring on a large scale, after the manner of Rubens, *The Seneschal*; and Mr. Ansdell exhibits three pictures of great merit, one of large size, *Cattle Fair, Isle of Skye*, much in the style of Sir E. Landseer.

WATER-COLOUR SOCIETY.

As there is no exhibition in the metropolis, even at this art-abounding season of the year, which so faithfully represents English taste in its character, or English scenery in its subject; none which so forcibly points out the soil from whence it springs,

and the influences of native growth, as that of the Old Water-Colour Society, so there is no one, the Royal Academy alone excepted, which is more extensively popular, or more pleasurably frequented. The visitors will this year be gratified to find no diminution in the power or value of the works of the established artists, whilst a collection of so high and equal general merit has perhaps not often been displayed. One name alone is wanting in the phalanx of the Old Water-Colour Painters, the loss of which will be sensibly felt—that of Mr. S. Prout; but his works survive him, and it will be long before the influence of his manner disappears from modern styles of painting.

The gallery contains on the present occasion 322 pictures, contributed by forty-seven artists; giving an average of nearly seven for each painter—an indication of no want either of supply or demand of works in the purely national taste. The number, however, has been largely exceeded by some of the members; Mr. W. Callow having furnished twenty-one, and Mr. Copley Fielding no less than thirty-three subjects. It is nothing new to observe that landscape predominates in the studies, when they have been contributed by the names above mentioned, along with those of C. Bentley, David Cox, father and son, George Frigg, Henry Gastineau, T. M. Richardson, and Collingwood Smith. Figure painting and compositions from history are neither strong in number or in quality; another evidence of the prevailing taste of the country, so far as it is represented in the field most congenial to it, and exclusively its own.

To point out superiority in so large a class of good works would be difficult, as the merits of different styles rise into emulation by contrast; still the painters are not always equal to themselves. Amongst Mr. C. Bentley's works, the eminence which immediately marks itself in the treatment of mountain scenery, mist and air, is not so conspicuous in a view of calm yellow sunset, and actually fails in the treatment of sea water. Here, on the contrary, Mr. J. Callow appears in peculiar force, whilst in his first picture the distance is manifestly a failure; and exaggerations of effect sometimes mar the simplicity of nature.

Mr. T. M. Richardson again must set against his brilliant and imaginative scenes some defects in figure drawing, which detract from the rest of the picture. Of all the artists Mr. W. Callow is perhaps the most uniformly good, though he is not free from technicalities of art, which are often too transparent. Mr. Copley Fielding opens the widest field for criticism in his thirty-three pictures; and his general popularity, already perhaps as high as that of any artist, will be increased by the adoption of a varied style in marine pieces, with which the public have not been familiar of late. The change is in every way commendable, not only for the sake of variety, but as a decided improvement on the yellows and browns, which are too often out of harmony in his landscape. Mr. George Frigg's wonderfully clear and true effects strike every eye; a strong contrast to the mannered arrangements of Mr. David Cox. The former painter copies nature with fidelity, but without always ennobling or dignifying her aspects; the latter renders them with all the conventionality of an artist, but at the same time with the accomplished skill of long practice. The style which Mr. Lewis has already exhibited in his *A hareem* of last year, has been repeated in a subject where the first impression that occurs to us is, that the amount of finish is disproportionate to the value of the subject; whilst we remember, at the same time, that labour seldom fails to find its due meed of approbation, and we shall not be surprised to find these pictures maintaining their value after the lapse of many years.

In the groups of figures, Messrs. F. W. Topham, John Gilbert, Carl Haag, and Alfred Frigg, Mrs. Criddle, and Miss Eliza Sharpe, supply the more important features of the collection, into which we propose entering more in detail on a future occasion.

MUSIC.

ASSUREDLY Mdlle. Wagner ought to be a syren of no ordinary powers of attraction when the two rival houses persist in laying claim to her services at the cost of having to pay for them through the Court of Chancery. Mr. Lumley has obtained his injunction so far, *ex parte*, as to prevent her making her appearance, though thrice announced, at Covent Garden; and after several delays, his opponent has this day engaged to show cause why it should not be made absolute. If he succeeds in dissolving it, it yet remains to be seen whether he will have secured her for himself. It by no means follows that because she cannot sing at the one house she will at the other. Meanwhile one house has been compelled to substitute the *Martini*, and the other to rub on with *Il Barbiere*. Rosati has gained fresh laurels in her reappearance at HER MAJESTY'S, where she was most enthusiastically greeted on Saturday in a very pretty *direttissement* constructed for her, entitled *La fête de Rosières*.

The third concert of the NEW PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY drew together an overflowing audience at Exeter Hall on Wednesday. Berlioz's *Romeo and Juliet*, Madame Pleyel and Staudigl, were the chief attractions; for though the selection from the *Vestale* of Spontini contained much in itself essentially beautiful, it is not of a character to form a feature on such an occasion. Mendelssohn's masterly but sombre overture to the *Isles of Fingal*, Weber's overture to *Euryanthe*, and Beethoven's overture to *Egmont*, are sufficiently familiar to us all. They were finely played. Of *Romeo and Juliet* we have already recorded our opinion. A second hearing does not induce us to in any way depart from or qualify it. Further acquaintance has indeed made us more familiar with its detail, but has in no respect abated our admiration and appreciation of its larger and loftier merits; on the contrary, new veins of beauty opened out with every succeeding movement, and our homage to his genius became only the more confirmed. The defects we noticed on a former occasion were apparent still. They are inseparable from his organization. It may be a matter of taste whether to admire the music of Berlioz or not. But to deny to him the attribute of genius, can only arise from the grossest ignorance, or the purest malice. Miss Dolby was far more at home, and consequently more successful than on the first night; the exquisite beauty and melody of the accompaniment to her solo, 'Ah, sweet first love!' caused us more than once to regret that it had not been given, at least interchangeably, to the voice. Herr Reichart was not heard at all to advantage in 'Queen Mab.' He sang well, but the quality of his voice is not adapted to the character of the music. We could hardly persuade ourselves it was the same voice that told so truly and musically in 'Mein Herz' on the former evening. He was far more successful in the music of *La Vestale*; but he sadly forces his voice beyond its capacity. Clara Novello's immensely powerful organ and ample delivery told finely in many of the passages of her part; but her singing is very unequal. Staudigl had no sufficient opportunity of producing much effect. What he did he did well, as he always does; but he requires music in which he can revel. Of Madame Pleyel's performance from memory of Weber's all but impossible 'Concert-Stück,' it is difficult to speak in terms of adequate commendation. In grace, in power, in elegance, and ease, as an *exécutante*, she is superior to any performer, male or female, we ever heard. Her mechanism is perfect, and is directed and controlled by a taste the most refined, and an intellectuality that thoroughly enters into and masters the spirit and purpose of the composer. In nothing is her superiority more strikingly manifest than in the exquisite apportionment of her emphasis in phrases of the utmost intricacy and complexity, and in the unapproachable evenness and distinctness of her *pianissimo* in passages of the utmost rapidity. At the risk of being set down as hypercritical, we should like to see her habit of throwing

up her left hand discontinued. It detracts from a style of performance otherwise perfect.

M. EMILE PRUDENT, in a concert given by him at the Hanover Square Rooms on Thursday, produced two spirited compositions, 'Les Rêveries des Fées,' and 'Chasse pour Piano avec Orchestre,' executed by him on the pianoforte with great brilliancy and feeling. Beethoven's fine overture to 'The Men of Prometheus' was performed by a full orchestra with great power and precision, and a duo on the violin and violoncello was executed with marvellous skill by Sivori and Piatti. Of the performances of the Quartett Association, which commenced on Wednesday at Willis's Rooms, we shall speak on a future occasion.

The Norwich papers speak in high terms of the performance in that city, on Tuesday last, of some selections from an oratorio, new to this country, entitled *Jerusalem*, by Mr. H. H. Pierson, for some time Professor of Music in the University of Edinburgh. Mr. Pierson has resided for several years abroad, under the name of Mansfeldt, and is well known in the musical circles of Germany. His first work was a comic opera, entitled *The Elves and the Earth King*; he published several songs at Vienna, and composed an opera called *Leisla*, produced with success in 1849 at Hamburg, and from which selections have been performed before the Court at Berlin. Mr. Pierson was in frequent intercourse with Mendelssohn, and having composed the present oratorio, it has been selected for performance at the forthcoming Norwich Musical Festival. We hear that it has been very favourably received among the private circles of Germany.

Friday last was a "great and important day" in the modern musical annals of France: Halévy's long talked of *Juif Errant*, in five acts, was brought out at the Grand Opera at Paris. To witness it the President of the Republic, the ministers, councilors of state, judges, eminent authors, musicians, painters, members of the *grand monde*—in one word, the *élite* of Parisian society, assembled. The success was complete, triumphant, enthusiastic—even outstripping that which it is customary for first performances of such important pieces, got up with all the resources of the opera, to obtain. To give any description of the plot of the piece would not be an easy task, as the authors have availed themselves to the fullest extent of the privilege allowed to libretto writers of being extravagant, improbable, and absurd. Suffice it to say, that the scene opens at Antwerp, in the year 1100 and something, then moves to Bulgaria and Constantinople—then to Thessalonica—then to the shores of the Bosphorus—then to Constantinople again—then to the Vale of Josaphat—then to the last day of judgment, and to heaven and hell. The adventures which happen at these several places are of a very extraordinary character, but not remarkably comprehensible. They, however, as well as the sites, serve for the introduction of magnificent scenery, dresses, and decorations. The principal *dramatis personæ* are (of course) the renowned *Ashverus*, *Theodora*, his descendant, *Irene*, her daughter, and *Leon*, the latter's lover. The music throughout displays remarkable scientific skill, but is perhaps too elaborate. It abounds with *morceaux* of great power and beauty; amongst which is a ballad, 'Marche, marche, toujours,' a trio between the two females and *Leon*, a quartett, a cavatina, and a duo. Portions of the opera rise to lofty grandeur; but others are decidedly heavy, and want shortening. In some places brass instruments were employed with a sort of savage *furor*, which was almost overwhelming. The choruses and orchestra were well drilled, and acquitted themselves with great effect. The principal parts were well sustained. Madame Tedesco sang with power, sweetness, and grace, which caused surprise even amongst her admirers; she made a decided hit. Roger was also good, but Massol as the *Wandering Jew* was still better. In the course of the opera there is a very pretty ballet, in which Bagdanoff, Taglioni, and Legroux drew down loud applause. The Paris critics, we perceive, vie with each other in enthusiastic laudation of this new work of

the great *maestro*. As a spectacle, the 'Wandering Jew' is gorgeous in the extreme; greater splendour has certainly never been seen on any stage.

The Young Singer's Book of Songs. By the Rev. H. Formby. Longman and Co.

THIS is avowedly designed for the younger portion of the community, its contents being not so much intended for musical studies as musical recreations for play-hours. The volume contains some "sixty lively and entertaining songs and fables in verse, adapted to popular melodies, with an easy pianoforte accompaniment." Having proved their popularity among the children of a school with which he was connected, Mr. Formby gives them to the public in their present elegant form—that of an elegant and tasteful small quarto. He has shown excellent taste in the selection of the airs, among which are many of those standard favourites of our childhood which no one ever wishes to forget; with several sterling old English and Scotch airs, and others of more recent growth, but all good. The pianoforte arrangements are simple but sound, and extremely appropriate; among the words are many pieces of pure poetry. Mr. Formby and his coadjutors, Messrs. Read and Lambert, of Salisbury, have performed their respective portions of the work most creditably.

Home. Written by the late Lady Flora Hastings. Composed by Charles Salaman.

AN extremely graceful and ably treated song. The accompaniment is very full and sustaining, without being overloaded, and is far from commonplace.

THE DRAMA.

A NEW play which has been performed nightly at the HAYMARKET since Saturday last, with the title of *Mind your Business*, affords a valuable instance of the unhealthy and trashy occupation of comic writing. The announcement of a three-act drama, named after the manner of a farce, little prepared us for the interesting result which followed; least of all could we have anticipated that we should be indebted for a play of such undoubted merit to the author of a little comic book, which only a few weeks before we had consigned in a fit of generosity to the waste-paper basket. Mr. Mark Lemon has for some years past been striving to be funny; he has now distinguished himself in the severer and more enduring walk of the legitimate drama; and we look forward with interest to the day when we may allow him to hold an honourable position among 'The Men of the Time.' His mind is undergoing a transformation from the chrysalis of unintelligible dulness, to the imago of wit and wisdom. He is beginning to write from the heart, and to observe nature and its glowing truthful inspirations with intelligence and judgment. This drama is an apt example of the transition state we have indicated, from the circumstance of its still having a little of the alloy of farce in it. The character which is introduced for the sake of Mr. Buckstone, who would be out of his natural element in legitimate action, is the only blot in the scutcheon. It is laughable, but intrusive. The interest of the piece is centered in the history of a country squire who has set his affections in a quarter where he has been anticipated by another, and overcome with unspeakable grief at the disappointment, plunges into drunken and dissolute habits, from which he is extricated by an accident that brings him home to happiness and joy. Mr. Webster's impersonation of this character is a most impressive and highly-finished portrait, touching and truthful to the last degree, and the play is well cast throughout. Mr. Keeley, as a footman who has become married to an aristocratic lady through acquiring a fortune, is richly humorous. He cannot get over his cockneyisms, and to revenge himself upon the gaieties of his wife, he appears among her guests in his old full dress livery. Miss Reynolds performs with freshness and delicacy, and Mrs. Stirling is effective. On the whole, we congratulate the management upon

the good taste that has been displayed in bringing forward a drama of sterling interest and worth without any preliminary puffing.

Another version of *La Dame de la Halle* has been brought out during the past week at the STRAND THEATRE, as neatly mounted as the limited resources of this exceedingly limited theatre will admit of. It is characterised, however, by a much more spirited termination than the versions at the Lyceum and Adelphi. The villain personated by Mr. Walter Lacy, after the style of Mr. Mathews, is polished and easy, and stands out in prominent relief from the rest of the characters. Miss Howard is a spirited queen of the market, and Mr. John Reeve is a smart and vigorous syndic of the porters.

The past week has been a very busy one for the Parisian theatres. At the Français, H. Murger, a young writer of much promise, has produced a little sketch called the *Bonhomme Jadis*; it is taken from his amusing book, 'Le Pays Latin,' but reads better than it acts. At the Ambigu, the hackneyed subject of Napoleon at St. Helena has been again turned into a formidable five-act drama; and, as heretofore, the *grand homme* is represented as sublime, and poor Hudson Lowe and the English, the former especially, as everything that is foul and abominable. The Théâtre National has also given a Napoleonic drama, with old Gobert, who some years ago personated Bonaparte with extraordinary success, in the leading character. At the Gaité, Bourgeois and Masson have brought out a lengthy melodrama, the *Mendiant*, full of ultra-melodramatic virtue and vice, generosity and crime. The principal character in it is well sustained by Madame Lacressonnière.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Dresden, April 20.

SINCE I last wrote the weather has entirely changed, and we are again in mid-winter, the face of the country covered an inch deep with snow, and the thermometer averaging from two to four degrees of Réaumur below freezing point. Yesterday the new bridge over the Elbe was opened with great ceremony. About nine o'clock the royal carriages arrived, and notwithstanding the inclement state of the weather, an immense concourse of spectators thronged the bridge and approaches to it. A handsome triumphal arch, covered with garlands and wreaths of evergreen, was erected at either end, and a magnificent Gothic arch in the centre, with a temporary wooden obelisk, upon which were inscribed the dates of the foundation, periods of progress, and termination of the work. Thousands of flags waved from the triumphal arches and balustrades, and excursion trains kept passing to and fro all day. In the evening the bridge was beautifully illuminated with coloured lamps and gas jets, and although it was extremely cold, crowds of the curious lingered about until past midnight.

The 'Marienbrücke,' as it was yesterday christened, is one of the finest works of the kind in Germany; it connects all the north German railways which terminate here with the Bohemian line from Dresden through Prague to Vienna. The foundation stone was laid in 1847, and the bridge completed in 1851; it is 1442 feet in length, being 62 feet longer than the old bridge, 54 feet wide, and 40 feet high above the ordinary level of the Elbe; it is built on 12 arches, each 100 feet wide. The bridge is divided lengthways by an iron railing, one side being occupied by a double set of rails for the trains, with a footpath on each side, the other appropriated to the usual traffic of the town, and provided also with a double line of footways. At the approach of a train a signal will be hoisted at each end of the bridge, and the carriage way closed until the engine has passed over. A solidly constructed viaduct of great length and beauty connects the bridge with the terminus of the Prague and Dresden railway. It is a work of art of high order, and reflects great credit on the architect who constructed it. It will have cost a million of Prussian dollars.

The increased taste in England for German litera-

ture has tempted one of the managers of a London theatre to engage a German dramatic company, and amongst them Emil Devrient will be the star of first magnitude. The name of Devrient is to the German stage what that of Kemble is to our own, and old theatre goers here rave about Ludwig Devrient (the uncle of the present brothers), as our fathers and grandfathers rave about John Kemble and Mrs. Siddons. His mantle has fallen upon worthy shoulders; in his two nephews, Edward and Emil Devrient, the German stage still possesses actors unrivalled in the present day. They are the pride of the Dresden boards. Edward, the elder brother, takes the parts which the Germans call 'character-rolle,' and those who have seen can never forget his inimitable impersonation of *Mari-nelli* in *Emilia Galotti*, and *Nathan the Wise* of Lessing, and *Antonio* in Goethe's *Tasso*. Emil Devrient takes the heroic parts, and in many of them it would be difficult to find his equal; his best characters will be selected for London, and an English audience will once again see *Hamlet* and *Coriolanus* worthily represented, while new sources of dramatic interest will be offered in Goethe's *Egmont*, and *Tasso* and Schiller's *Posa* and *Tell*.

Two young German artists of great promise, Wilhelmina Claus and Bernhard Hildebrandt, are, I hear, about to make their *début* this season in London. The latter is the grandson of Bernhard Romberg, the celebrated violoncello player of former days. The youth has talent of no common order, and gives promise to excel on the same instrument. He has studied under Spohr in Cassel, and has subsequently obtained the first prizes in the Conservatoire in Paris. Wilhelmina Claus, the other young *débutante* is a Bohemian, and has received her musical education at Prague, under Proch; she possesses a wonderful brilliancy of execution, united to a graceful fancy and intense feeling, which places all styles of music within her grasp, and as a piano-forte player, already, though but eighteen years of age, ranks high in the musical world.

From Düsseldorf we hear that Lessing is engaged on a new historical picture, which promises to equal if not surpass any of his former works. He has chosen for his subject Luther Burning the Bull of Excommunication before the Gates of Wittenberg. He has introduced portraits of Luther, and of Bugenhagen, Cranach, and other contemporaries of the great Reformer.

Professor Hildebrandt has recovered from his illness, and is painting a portrait of Schadow, the Director of the Academy.

MR. AGUILAR respectfully announces that his ANNUAL CONCERT will take place at the Hanover Square Rooms, on WEDNESDAY EVENING, May 5th. Vocalists—Mlle. Clara Novello, Mlle. Jetty Treffz, Herr Reichart, and Herr Formes; Violin—Signor Sivori; Contrabasso—Signor Bottesini; Pianoforte—Mr. Aguilar. The orchestra will be numerous and efficient; Leader—Mr. Willy; Accompanist—Herr Küchler; Conductor—Herr Anschütz. Two of Mr. Aguilar's latest compositions, a grand 'Allegro Maestoso' for piano, with orchestra, and an overture entitled 'Alpheus,' will be produced. Tickets 7s. each, to be had at the principal Music Publishers, and of Mr. AGUILAR, 68, Upper Norton Street, Portland Road; Reserved Seats, 10s. 6d. to be had of Mr. Aguilar only.

EXETER HALL.—**DANIEL**, an Oratorio (6th Chapter), by GEORGE LAKE, Friday, May 21. Also, MENDELSSOHN'S PSALM LV., and WEBER'S PRAISE OF JEHOVAH—all first time. Vocalists—Misses Messent, Stewart, Felton; Messrs. Sims Reeves, Showbridge, H. Buckland, Leffler, and J. Phillips; with Band and Chorus of 600 Performers. Organist, Mr. Brownsmith; Leader, Mr. Willy. Tickets 3s., 5s., and 10s. 6d., to be had at Addison's, 210, Regent Street, and all Music-sellers.

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